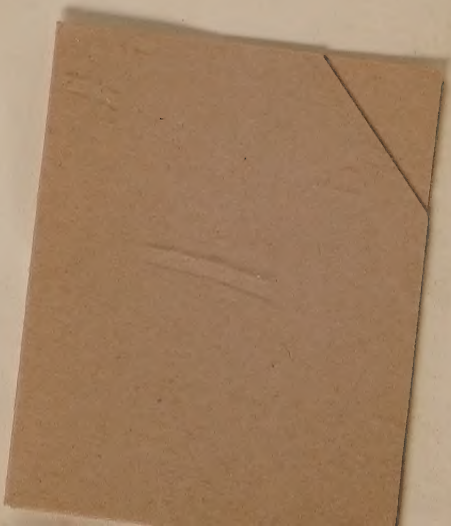
Scale of Miles
0 2 4 6 8
SALOP
HEREFORDSHIRE
a map of
RAILWAYS
and Connections
RADNOR
To Craven Arms
LUDLOW
Sta.
Leintwardine
Brampton Bryan
Leinthall Starkes
Wigmore
Wofferton Sta.
Eastnor Court
Leinthall Earls
Brimfield
Kinsham
Byton
PRESTEIGN
Berrington & Eye Sta.
Lucton
Middleton on the Hill
Kingsland Sta.
Titley
Kitley
To New Radnor
Sta.
Pembridge Sta.
R. Arrow
LEOMINSTER
Sta.
Thornbury
Fencote Sta.
KINGTON
LYONSHALL
Sta.
Dilwyn
Fordbridge Sta.
Steen's Br. Sta.
Romden Mill Sta.
Marston Chapel
BROMYARD
Sta.
To Worcester
Sta.
Almeley
Sarnesfield
Dinmore Sta.
Eardisley
Sta.
Kinnersley Sta.
Sta.
Whitney
Moreton Jeffreys
GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY

Clifford Sta.
Greens Siding Sta.
Hay Sta.
HAY
Westbrook Sta.
Dorstone
Dorstone Sta.
R. Wye
Credenhill Sta.
HEREFORD
Withington Sta.
Stoke Edith Sta.
Ashperton Sta.
Colwall Sta.
To Gt. Malvern
Stoke Edith
R. Lugg
Mordiford
Sta
LEDBURY
Peterchurch
Eaton Bishop
GOLDEN VALLEY
Vowchurch
Bullingham
Tram Inn Sta.
Holme Lacy Sta.
Little Marcle
Sollers Hope
Much Marcle
Bacton Sta
Abbey Dore Sta.
St Devereux Sta.
Much Dewchurch
Ballingham Sta.
Fawley Sta.
Upton Bishop
Pontrilas Sta.
Kentchurch
Orcop
Pencoyd
ROSS
Aston Ingham
To Aberg
Pandy Sta.
Tretire
Mitcheldean Road Sta.
Llangarren
Kerne Bridge Sta.
Longhope Sta.
To Gloucester
MONMOUTH
MONMOUTH
To Usk
GLOUCESTER

942.44



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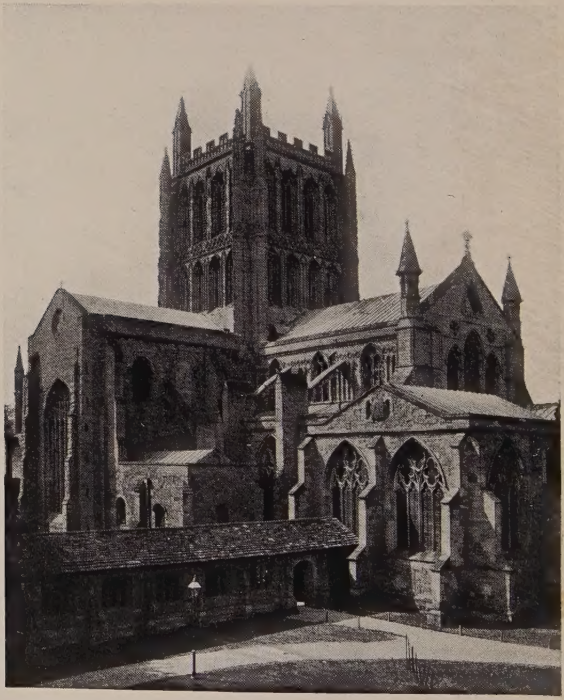
STAFFORDSHIRE
SUFFOLK
SURREY
SUSSEX
WARWICKSHIRE
WILTSHIRE
WORCESTERSHIRE
THE EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
THE NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS
NORTH WALES
SOUTH WALES
KERRY
BRITTANY
NORMANDY
ROME
SICILY
SNOWDONIA



HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

HEREFORDSHIRE

By

G. W. WADE, D.D.

and

J. H. WADE, M.A.

WITH TWENTY-FOUR ILLUSTRATIONS
FROM PHOTOGRAPHS, TWO MAPS
AND TWO PLANS

"Where Vaga's stream
Encircles Ariconium, fruitful soil!
Whence flow nectareous wines, that well may vie
With *Massic*, *Setin*, or renowned *Falern*."

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Second Edition

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PREFACE

THE county of Hereford, though central and accessible, is not so well or so widely known as it deserves to be. The majority of the tourists who pass through it see little of it except the Wye valley and the neighbourhood of Malvern. But Herefordshire, in reality, has various attractions beside the beauties of the Wye and the interesting surroundings of the Malvern hills. Many of the most characteristic features, and much of the quiet charm, of the county are to be discovered in its nooks and corners. These, though easily reached by motor or cycle, are to numbers of travellers unfamiliar ground; and it is in the belief that the district as a whole will repay a closer intimacy that this little volume has been written. It purports to be a pocket companion which will furnish it readers with an introduction to the entire county; and if the perusal of it proves as informing as the compilation of it has been pleasant, its existence we hope, will be deemed to be justified.

All the localities described, with few exceptions, have been visited by one or other of us ; and the accounts of them are drawn from notes taken on the spot. But we have supplemented our own investigations by those of others, and in doing so we have made much use of the *Victoria County History of Herefordshire*, vol. i., and of the *Transactions of the Woolhope Club ;* whilst in certain instances we have been dependent for our information upon these sources exclusively. It is to the *Transactions* that we are chiefly indebted for the substance of what is said respecting the flora and the fauna of the county. The brief notices of its celebrities are based on J. Hutchinson's *Herefordshire Biographies*, and the *Dictionary of National Biography*. Amongst other works to which we desire to express our obligations are Canon Bannister's *Herefordshire and its Place in English History*, the same author's *Herefordshire Place-Names*, Mr. A. G. Bradley's *Herefordshire*, Prebendary Seaton's *History of Archenfield*, Dr. E. Hermitage Day's *Monuments and Memorials*, the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield's *Manor Houses*, and, in addition to these, the *Archæological Survey of Herefordshire* prepared by the Rev. J. O. Bevan, Mr. James Davies, and Professor Haverfield. Duncumb's *History of Herefordshire* (which has been continued by Mr. Cook) has been consulted,

but for our purpose has not proved particularly useful.

We are also indebted to Dr. J. C. Cox for various corrections and suggestions, and especially to Dr. E. Hermitage Day for the exceptionally valuable series of photographs which he has most generously furnished for the illustration of our work.

G. W. W.
J. H. W.

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MAP OF HEREFORD . . . . . *At end*

Except where otherwise stated the illustrations have been reproduced from photographs by the Rev. Dr. E. Hermitage Day.

INTRODUCTION

I. Situation and Extent

HEREFORDSHIRE is one of the western counties of England, adjoining the Welsh frontier. Though the larger part of it has always belonged to the realm of England, it is sufficiently close to the Principality to have been considerably affected by Welsh influences; and portions of it have still many Welsh characteristics. Its surroundings are as much Welsh as English. The two Welsh counties of Brecon and Radnor are its immediate neighbours on the W. On the N. it is bordered by Shropshire, which is likewise a marchland of blended national traditions, and from which it is separated by no natural line of demarcation. On the S.W. the narrow channel of the Monnow separates it from Monmouthshire, which, though geographically reckoned an English county, has always been Welsh in its political sympathies and historical associations. It is only on the eastern and south-eastern sides that the balance is adjusted, for here it comes into contact with the purely English counties of Worcester and Gloucester. In shape Herefordshire is an irregular diamond, with the axes running N. and S., and E. and W. Its situation on the map is between 51° 49″ and

52° 24″ N. latitude, and 2° 21″ and 3° 8″ W. longitude. In point of size it is rather below the mean, being twenty-ninth amongst the forty English counties, and it has an area of about 538,000 acres, or nearly 840 square miles. Its extreme length is 40 miles and its greatest breadth is 35 miles. Like its neighbours Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, and Monmouthshire, it gets its name from its county town, and not, like Somerset and Dorset, from the Saxon tribe which once occupied it, though it had the similar fortune of being monopolized by one particular clan, the Magesætas, and might in consequence have been called Mageset.

II. Physical Features

Wales and the central portion of England which it adjoins are sharply differentiated in physical character. One is a land of high and rugged mountains, the other is, on the whole, a district of gentle undulations. Herefordshire, as a connecting link between the two, displays some of the peculiarities of both, though its general features are mainly English. Yet in spite of the fact that its predominant aspect is that of an English Midland county, a glance at a contour map will show that it includes within its borders an outlying portion of the Welsh highlands, which does not historically or physically belong to it. It owes this rougher fringe to a political re-arrangement. Under the Tudor settlement of 1536, when Wales was formally partitioned into counties, the original English frontier was carried westwards, and ten of

the adjacent March lordships were thrown into the shire. If, however, the county be considered as a whole, its physical character is fairly uniform. Though one corner of it is renowned for its beauty, its scenery in general is of a quiet, pastoral description, and is noteworthy rather for its consistent picturesqueness than for any remarkable loveliness. It is a land of soft tints and mellow tones, and its charm lies in the sense of rural seclusion and repose suggested by its smooth hills, its sleepy woods, and gently flowing streams. No collieries or iron works blacken its surface, or disturb its quiet. Here nature as yet bows only to the mild yoke of the farmer. To say this, however, is not to charge the landscape with monotony. Everywhere the scenery is delightfully varied. The abundance of water and woodland alone is sufficient to redeem it from tameness; and a feature which adds much to the diversity of the scene is the number of isolated hills which spring from the levels. There are no wide and uninterrupted expanses, but a series of undulating plains broken by these wooded eminences, which grow bolder and barer as they approach the Welsh boundary. In another way, too, the numerous woods of Herefordshire have helped to enhance its interest and picturesqueness, for they have furnished the material for the construction of the half-timbered houses which are so characteristic of its towns and villages, and which invest the county with the old-world atmosphere that constitutes one of its chief attractions. On the W., and to some extent on the E., the hills swell into mountain ridges with a sharper

and more serrated outline. Broadly speaking, the county might be described as a central plain ringed round by hills, and scored by rivers, which discharge their waters into the Wye as it flows diagonally across the shire. The Wye enters this basin through a gap between the Black Mountains and the uplands of Radnor Forest, and, in order to find its way out, it has to force a passage through the limestone gorge which gives to the scenery below Ross such pre-eminent distinction. It is a little difficult to catalogue this miscellaneous collection of heights, but as a rough classification the following will, perhaps, suffice. Most conspicuous of them all is Hatterall Hill, the vanguard of the Black Mountains, a bold and precipitous ridge rising like a bulky rampart on the S.W., and attaining in places an altitude of 2000 feet. From this a succession of parallel folds of ever-decreasing height roll towards the plain. Beyond the valley of the Wye, which breaks them off abruptly on the N., is a tumultuous series of hills, the outliers of Radnor Forest ; and of these the Hergest and Brilley ridges, some 1400 feet high, are the most remarkable. The N. corner of the county, which projects like a wedge into Shropshire, is again upheaved into a number of well-wooded hills which enclose the valley of the Lugg, and of which High Vinnalls, with an elevation of 1200 feet, is the principal. On the N.E., intervening between Leominster and the Worcestershire border, is the high plateau on which Bromyard is situated, and which at intervals rises to nearly 800 feet. The massive and shapely ridge of the Malvern Hills extends along the E. verge of the county,

THE SEVEN SISTERS ROCKS, RIVER WYE

but only one of their loftiest summits can be claimed as Herefordshire soil. The encircling chain of hills is completed by the wooded uplands of the Forest of Dean on the S.E. Of the more or less isolated eminences Aconbury, Credenhill, Dinmore, Ladylift, and Garway Hills are perhaps the most notable.

The city of Hereford is not only the administrative and commercial but also the geographical centre of the county, for upon it converge the river valleys of the Upper Wye, the Lugg, and the Frome. The great central channel is, of course, the Wye. Into it sooner or later is poured the main drainage of the county. The stream, as it flows from the Welsh hills into Herefordshire at Hay, pursues a serpentine course more or less eastwards until it reaches Hereford : and then, bending abruptly southwards, makes its way by many windings, past numerous camp-crowned eminences, into Monmouthshire, some miles below Ross. The Lugg comes down from the Radnorshire highlands in a S.E. direction, and turning S. at Leominster picks up the Arrow, which also has its source on the N.W. border ; and then flowing a little eastwards of the county town joins the Wye at Mordiford. The Frome drains the Bromyard hills, and unites with the Lugg just before the junction of the latter with the principal river. Two independent streams touch the county, but can scarcely be reckoned in its river system. The Teme cuts across the N. of the shire in two places, on its way from Radnorshire into Shropshire and Worcestershire ; and the Monnow, which has its origin amongst the Black Mountains, forms the S.W. border of the county

for some distance before it finally augments the Wye at Monmouth. It is along the banks of the Wye that all the finest scenery in Herefordshire is found. The most remarkable prospects are in the neighbourhood of Ross, but there are many picturesque views along its course before it reaches Hereford city. The valley of the Lugg is also in many parts quite charming; and there are some wild and rugged landscapes in the vicinity of Kington. The Golden Valley, through which flows the Dore, an affluent of the Monnow, is also pretty. The prospects from the Malvern range, again, are extensive and inspiring, but are too well known to call for remark here. Everywhere, indeed, throughout Herefordshire, whether on river, hill-top, or plain, the traveller cannot fail to be pleased with his surroundings; and nowhere will he have less reason to deplore the disfigurements wrought by man, for hitherto its scenery has been quite unspoilt by industrial developments, though its solitudes are few.

III. Geology

A visitor to Herefordshire who includes in his tour the greater part of its extent, can, without much scientific knowledge, easily infer that the geology of the county is very uniform. For in whatever direction he may turn his eyes, he will observe the soil to present the same ruddy colour, indicating that it belongs to one system. This system is the Devonian or Old Red Sandstone, which occupies four-fifths of the whole surface of

the county. It is only on the N.W., the E., and the S.E. borders, and in a few small areas within them, that its widespread distribution is interrupted.

All the Herefordshire rocks are ancient, there being nothing more recent (apart from alluvial deposits) than a few Triassic rocks on the extreme E. Most of the systems below these, from the Archæan to the Permian, are represented, though the Coal Measures (a division of the Carboniferous) and the Ordovician are entirely absent, whilst the Permian, like the Triassic, occurs only in a single locality. The earliest system of all, which is known as the Archæan or pre-Cambrian, constitutes the Malvern Hills on the E. of the county; and of these a conspicuous summit—the Herefordshire Beacon—falls within it. Here a great mass of gneissic rock protrudes through all the sedimentary strata which elsewhere cover them. On the other side of the county igneous rocks also come to the surface on Hergest ridge near the borders of Radnor; and they appear likewise at Bartestree, between Lugwardine and Dormington, where the igneous outcrop intrudes into the Old Red Sandstone, and the latter has undergone some alteration in consequence. The system next above the Archæan is the Cambrian, and this occurs at the S. end of the Malvern range, flanking the earlier rocks near Eastnor and Bronsil. There is also a very small tract at Pedwardine, near Brampton Bryan, where the same system is visible. The rocks next in order, the Ordovician, are not (as already said) represented at all in the county; but the Silurian system which

comes above them, appears in several places. One locality is the neighbourhood of Ledbury, where rocks of this system (which include the Llandovery, Wenlock, and Ludlow beds) are found along the western edge of the Malverns, bordering the underlying Cambrian. Another is the N.W. fringe of the county, where there is an extensive exposure of Wenlock and Ludlow rocks between Ludlow and Huntington. A third locality where there is an outcrop of the same system is the vicinity of Aston Ingham. But the most remarkable example is at Woolhope. Here the Silurian beds (Llandovery, Wenlock, and Ludlow) have been uplifted like a dome by some subterranean upheaval, all three being exposed concentrically, so that there has been formed "a valley of elevation". There is a centre of Llandovery flags (the lowest of the three divisions of Silurian rocks), which is encircled by a ring of Wenlock limestones (the next in upward succession); and outside this is a wide deposit of Ludlow rocks, the topmost of the series. Among the fossils occurring in the Silurian rocks are brachiopods, corals, and echinoderms; and towards the close of this period the first fish are found. In the various localities in the county where Silurian and pre-Silurian sedimentary rocks come to the surface, the Old Red Sandstone, which is next in order to the Silurian system, has been worn away; but throughout the greater part of Herefordshire this still overlies the inferior strata, and is the predominant system. It owes its alternative name, *Devonian*, to the fact that it is very conspicuous in Devonshire; but in structure the Herefordshire rocks differ from

those of Devon. They were probably deposited under diverse conditions ; and whilst the Devonshire rocks were presumably laid down in a sea or ocean, those of Herefordshire are thought to have been deposited in a lake or perhaps a bay. Numerous fossils of fish are characteristic of these rocks. The next superior system to the Old Red Sandstone is the Carboniferous. In this there are three divisions, the Carboniferous Limestone, the Millstone Grit, and the Coal Measures : of these only the lowest occurs in Herefordshire, being found in the S.E. of the county, where it constitutes the fringe of the Forest of Dean Coalfield. It is through these rocks that the Wye has had to force its way in order to make its escape out of the county towards the sea ; and the gorge which it has carved for its channel furnishes much of the attractive scenery for which the river is so remarkable. Above the Coal Measures, which are absent from Herefordshire, lie the Permian and Triassic rocks. These are met with only at the extreme E. of the county, both being visible between Donnington and Bromsberrow, near the S. extremity of the Malverns. With the Keuper beds of the Triassic series the Herefordshire rocks end. The Lias, the Oolite, the Greensand, the Chalk, and other later strata, which are conspicuous in the S. and E. of England, do not occur anywhere in the county. Alluvial deposits, however, which are the most recent of all, naturally edge the present channels of the Wye, the Frome, the Lugg, and the Arrow, and form the level pastures which border these rivers.

IV. Climate

The position of the county, fairly remote from the disturbing influences of the Atlantic, and the absence of strongly marked physical peculiarities, render the climate of Herefordshire unusually uniform and equable. In general terms it may be described as both dry and mild. The rainfall, in particular, is very moderate, though some districts are slightly drier than others. The average for the whole county is something like 30 inches. The east and centre, naturally the driest parts, do not usually receive more than 23 inches of rain; on the other hand, in the W. where the district is overhung by the uplands of Radnor, the figures rise to about 36 inches, an average which is seldom exceeded even in the valleys at the foot of the lofty Black Mountains, where a heavier fall might reasonably be expected.

In the matter of temperature the county can show an equally favourable record in normal times, though in this respect its distance from the sea, and the shallowness of its valleys, make it liable to considerable fluctuations of heat and cold in extreme seasons. But notwithstanding occasional hot and cold spells, the thermometer seldom records exceptional figures.

V. Communications

Railways.—The Herefordshire railways follow the river valleys, and they nearly all unite at Hereford city. The principal line is the through route

from the West of England (*via* the Severn tunnel) and from South Wales (*via* Newport) to the North and the Midlands. This, after leaving Pontypool Road, runs up the valley of the Usk to Abergavenny, rises by a steep gradient along the Gavenny to Llanfihangel, and then runs down the valley of the Monnow to Pontrilas. The valley of the Worm, a small tributary of the Monnow, enables it to reach the Hereford plain, which it crosses to Hereford. Thence it pursues its way along the valley of the Lugg past Leominster, and subsequently at Woofferton enters, by the valley of the Teme, into Shropshire. From Hereford two lines traverse the valley of the Wye: one ascends the river to Hay, whilst the other goes down the river (which it crosses four times) to Ross, and eventually to Gloucester and London. From Ross there is a branch (likewise following the Wye) to Monmouth. A third line from Hereford proceeds eastward to Ledbury, on the way to Malvern, Worcester, and Birmingham. From Leominster lines run eastward to Bromyard and Worcester, and westward (following the upper course of the Lugg) to Kington and New Radnor. At Titley, on this line, short branches connect with Presteigne in one direction, and with Eardisley, a station on the Hereford and Hay line, in the other. Finally, from Pontrilas, on the main W. and N. line, a branch runs up the Golden Valley to Hay.

As regards ownership the railway system of Herefordshire is somewhat complicated, its complexity being due to the fact that the great trunk railways have to a large extent been formed by the absorp-

tion of small local lines which have not always been acquired by the same company. The route to the N., from Abergavenny Junction as far as Shrewsbury, in part belongs to the Great Western, and in part is the joint property of that company and the London and North-Western, the former having taken over the original line from Hereford to Newport, whilst the line to Shrewsbury was the united enterprise of the two companies. The branch lines which leave the main track at Hereford for Ledbury and Ross, and at Leominster for Kington and Bromyard, are owned by the G.W.R., though the Midland has running powers over the first of these four branches. The G.W.R. also works the line which threads the Golden Valley to Hay. The Hereford and Hay line, on the contrary, belongs to the Midland.

Herefordshire possesses no canals now in use.

Roads.—The main highroads of the county, like the railways, radiate from the city of Hereford, and run in much the same directions. By them the city is put into communication with Abergavenny, Ross, Ledbury, Hay, Weobley, Leominster, Kington, Presteigne, and Bromyard. Monmouth is reached by a highway which leaves the Ross road at the foot of Aconbury Hill. A rather straighter but steeper and less frequented route also proceeds directly to Ross on the eastern side of Aconbury; whilst a third route, which is the main road to Gloucester, and keeps on the left of the river Wye, cuts the Ledbury and Ross road about 3 miles from the latter town. To Hay, likewise, there is a choice of routes. One

keeps to the left bank of the Wye, through Staunton and Letton ; the other, which is more circuitous, passes along the other side of the river through Madley. (In the present work they are distinguished as north and south.) Good roads join Leominster with Kington, Hay, Gloucester (through Bodenham), and Bromyard (the last being an ascent for much of the distance) ; whilst Ledbury is equally well connected with Bromyard, Malvern, Tewkesbury, Gloucester, and Ross. Almost all the main highways are reasonably wide and level, and are well maintained. The by-roads, of course, do not receive quite so much attention and are rather narrower, but nowhere has the traveller great reason to complain of the communications provided for his convenience. The motorist will certainly not find his interests neglected.

VI. Flora

It is a rather irregular proceeding to begin an account of a county's *flora*, which generally means its wild flowers, by mention of such products of cultivation as apple-trees and hops. Yet it can scarcely be doubted that the features of the countryside which most impress a visitor to Herefordshire, at least in the spring and autumn, are its orchards and hopfields. For both of them the county is famous. Orchards are abundant everywhere, and the cider which they yield is a beverage which is widely consumed. It was not until the fourteenth century that Herefordshire became a cider-producing district. The French wars of that time pro-

moted the production and consumption of it by diminishing the opportunities for importing into the country the wines of the Continent ; and an indication of the prevalent use of it in the next century is furnished by a Wycliffe Bible (1420), in which the Greek σίκερα, in St. Luke i. 15, is translated by *Syder*. At the present time Herefordshire is amongst the half-dozen English counties that exceed the rest in the extent of its orchards. A very remarkable feature of the Herefordshire apple-trees is the quantity of mistletoe that grows upon them. The mistletoe is not confined to the apple ; it occurs on the plum, the peach, the oak, and the black poplar, and, indeed, is said to grow on no fewer than thirty-three different kinds of trees and shrubs. But it is the apple-tree that it seems to love best, though it is fairly common also on the oak. The sanctity which was attached to it by the Druids and others in ancient times was due to the fact that it is an evergreen, its leaves and berries being conspicuous on various trees when their own foliage is dead. Hence it came to be regarded as the external embodiment of the life of those trees on which it was found, and was credited with the power to give longevity and health to men. Hopfields are not so numerous as orchards, being restricted to the eastern side of the county. Where they occur, the kilns in which the hops are dried are striking features in the landscape. The acreage here under hops exceeds that of Worcestershire.

The wild flowers of Herefordshire are not so diversified as those of many other counties because within it there is little variety of surface, soil, or

climate. There is no seaboard, and very little waste land or marsh ; and it is only on the N.W. border that the hills attain an altitude sufficient to affect the flora in any considerable measure. At the same time, there is much woodland and an abundance of rivers, so that plants that love the woods and running water find here congenial surroundings. The enumeration of all the species of plants that are characteristic of the several districts into which the county for botanical purposes has been divided would be beyond the compass of this work. It must suffice to name a few of the most noteworthy in the county at large, and to specify with rather more fulness those that occur in two or three localities which by reason of their situation or some other cause are exceptional.

Among trees and shrubs which flourish particularly well in the county mention should be made of the oak, the elm, and the bramble. Many specimens of the first-named tree are of unusual size. In regard to brambles Herefordshire takes a leading place, possessing more varieties than any other county. In many woods are found the wild pear (*Pirus cordata*) and the bird-cherry ; the latter, when in full flower, is one of the most beautiful sights that the springtime affords. Water plants, like the water-crowfoot, the arrow-head, and the yellow water-lily, are very abundant.

Amongst other plants which for their comparative rarity claim notice here are the monkshood (*Aconitum Napellus*), the caraway (*Carum carvi*), the snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*), the yellow star of Bethlehem (*Gagea lutea*), the caper spurge

(*Euphorbia Lathyris*), one of the marjorams (*Origanum megastychum*), and the curious orchid known as *Epipogium aphyllum*.

The localities which merit special treatment are three. The first is the district of which Woolhope is the centre. The peculiar geological formation of this neighbourhood (see p. 8) naturally affects its flora. It is here that the caraway, mentioned above, occurs ; and other plants found here are the mealy guelder-rose, the liquorice vetch, the slender bird's-foot trefoil, and some rare helleborines (the white and the marsh). The second district is that formed by the Black Mountains. This, which reaches an altitude of more than 2000 feet, is the habitat of many plants that are not met with on lower ground ; whilst the bogs that occur here and there on the hills have a special flora of their own. The plants that call for enumeration here are the cowberry, the crowberry, and the whortleberry, the mountain everlasting, the mountain pansy, the Welsh poppy, the butterwort, the buckbean, the round-leaved sundew, the Lancashire asphodel, the sweet cicely (*Myrrhis odorata*), a rare orchid (*Habenaria albida*), and a rare crowfoot (*Ranunculus Lenormandi*). The third of the localities alluded to is embraced by the two Doward hills. These hills, considering their limited extent, have a very rich flora, which includes the *Hutchinsia petræa*, the large-leaved lime, the horse-shoe vetch, the bloody cranesbill, the madder (*Rubia peregrina*), two white-beams (*Pirus rotundifolia* and *intermedia*), several hawkweeds (*Hieracium lasiophyllum*, *H. pachyphyllum*, and *H.*

planifolium), the fly orchid (*Ophrys muscifera*), the drooping melic grass (*Melica nutans*), and three rare sedges (*Carex digitata*, *humilis* and *montana*).

VII. Fauna

The *fauna* of Herefordshire does not call for much remark. The large proportion of arable and of pasture land in the county, and the slight extent of moorland or mountain within its area, prevent it from being in any great degree a home of creatures that love the wild. Of the larger mammals the badger, the fox, and the otter occur, though the first is not common. The pine marten is extinct, and the polecat, if it survives, is only found among the Black Mountains ; but the stoat and the weasel are plentiful. Hares and rabbits, squirrels and hedgehogs, are common. So too are rats and the various kinds of mice ; and one species of wood mouse (*Mus sylvaticus Wintoni*) was first discovered in this county. Of the bat tribe there occur the whiskered and Natterer's, the long-eared, the horse-shoe (greater and lesser), the pipistrelle, and White's. The reptiles that are met with include the adder (of which a variety, the small red viper, is found on Garway hill), the grass snake, the slow-worm (really a lizard), the common lizard, the common newt, the crested newt, the frog, and the toad.

In respect of domestic cattle Herefordshire possesses a very distinctive breed, red in colour but characterized by white faces. Its origin is variously accounted for: a common explanation is

that it was introduced by Lord Scudamore from Flanders in the seventeenth century. Herefords are said to be better for the production of beef than of milk, and are excellent for the butcher's purpose, though they develop slowly. The county is also noted for its sheep. The particular breed that produced the "Leominster ore" celebrated by Drayton (see p. 194) was the Ryeland ; but the flocks that are now pastured are of various strains.

The birds that are commonest are those of the field, the hedgerow, and the wood, the larger and more rapacious kinds which avoid the haunts of men being rare, and confined to the only mountainous district which the county includes. The permanent residents comprise the thrush, the blackbird, the various larks, the four common tits, the different finches, the nuthatch, the three common species of woodpecker, the lapwing, the stonechat, the heron, the jay, the rook, the magpie, the starling, the kestrel, the sparrow-hawk, the barn and the brown owl, the wood-pigeon, the dipper, the ouzel, the sparrow, the robin, the wren, etc. Among the summer migrants are the wheatear, the whinchat, the cuckoo, the redstart, the swift, the swallow, the house and the sand-martin, the chiff-chaff, the willow-wren, and many others. Of the rarer residents may be mentioned the raven, the hobby, the merlin, the hen-harrier, the curlew, the golden plover, the green sand-piper, the black and red grouse, the twite, the lesser redpole, the rock-pipit, the haw-finch, the siskin, the cross-bill, and the long-eared and the short-eared owl.

Into Herefordshire, as into other counties, rare

visitors sometimes find their way; and instances are recorded of the following, among others: the cream-coloured courser, the grey phalarope, the ruff, the quail, Pallas's sand grouse, the little bustard, the hoopoe, the white-tailed eagle, the peregrine falcon, and the glossy ibis. The existence of a large river like the Wye attracts a certain number of sea-birds, such as the commoner gulls, and even occasionally cormorants, shags, solan-geese, shovellers, sheldrakes, terns, puffins, skuas, etc.

The number of rivers and streams in Herefordshire, unpolluted by the refuse from mines and manufactories, renders fishing in the county a very attractive pursuit. The chief river, from a fisherman's point of view as well as that of other people, is the Wye, with its affluent the Lugg, of which the Arrow and the Frome are subordinate tributaries. In addition, there are the Leddon in the E. of the county, the Teme in the N., and the Monnow, with its tributary the Dore, in the W. The most highly esteemed fish are the salmon and the trout, both of which are abundant in the Wye. The salmon breeds chiefly in the upper reaches of the river; but is known to do so likewise even in the neighbourhood of Hereford. Specimens of considerable size are often taken: *e.g.*, in 1907 several over 40 lb. were landed, the largest being 44½ lb. The grayling is not common in the Wye, but occurs in the Lugg, the Teme, and the Monnow. Amongst coarse fish there are pike, perch, carp, roach, chub, and gudgeon. Of these the carp is rarely found in the rivers, but is plentiful in some lakes at Holm Lacy. The rest are met with in

most of the streams. In the Wye a sturgeon occasionally makes its appearance.

VIII. Population

The characteristics of a people spring chiefly from racial, geographical, and political causes. In Herefordshire the political and geographical factors have been more than usually influential. Racially the majority of the inhabitants are of Anglo-Saxon stock, and have the same hereditary traits as their kinsmen in Gloucestershire and the other Western counties, for the district W. of the Severn was peopled by much the same tribes. The proximity of the county, however, to the Welsh border has tended to racial amalgamation, though not to the extent that might have been expected. This result has been due to political reasons. Herefordshire was on the Welsh marches, and the natural boundary line between the two peoples, *viz.*, the Wye, ran through the county. To reinforce this, at the point where the river, as it issues from between the Welsh mountains, affords a passage into the central plain, the Saxon King Offa constructed his dyke; and this for long served as a scientific frontier to keep the two races apart. Even to-day the influence of that "wall of partition" is still felt. The inhabitants of the W. border are much more Welsh than those of the other parts of the shire. But it is not in the W. alone that we find the lingering influence of Celtic associations. As indicated by the character of its place names (see p. 68) the S. corner of the county is also a Welsh district.

But it is Welsh with a difference. The locality was in the occupation of Welsh "friendlies," who were governed by their own rulers and retained their own customs. They became Anglicized by a peaceful process of penetration; and to this day the bulk of the population between the Wye and the Monnow are Welsh with English characteristics.

In other respects the Herefordshire people, as a whole, are, like all purely agricultural communities, a homely and hospitable folk, somewhat unenterprising, and very tenacious of old customs and habits. There is some Welsh spoken on the Breconshire and Radnorshire borders; but the English tongue, like the English race, has long prevailed throughout the entire county.

In point of numbers Herefordshire does not stand very high in the scale, being almost at the bottom of the list of English counties: Huntingdon, Westmoreland, and Rutland alone are below it. But though the county as a whole is thinly populated, the people are very evenly distributed, for it contains no large industrial towns. At the last census, the population within the Parliamentary area amounted to 114,642, and within the administrative county area to 114,269. The most sparsely inhabited district is the S.W. corner, which is a solitary land of moor and mountain. In the fertile lowlands the villages, though small, are numerous. The city of Hereford contains 22,568 inhabitants; the municipal borough of Leominster, 5737; the Urban district of Ross, 4682; that of Ledbury, 3358; that of Kington, 1819; and that of

Bromyard, 1703. In the case of each of the last four places the ecclesiastical parish has a larger population than the Urban district.

The extent of the Parliamentary representation has fluctuated. In 1295 Hereford, Leominster, Ledbury, and Weobley sent members to the House of Commons; but Weobley ceased to do so in 1306. In 1304 Ledbury, Bromyard, and Ross received writs summoning them to provide representatives, but were exempted on their pleading inability to pay them. Accordingly up to 1628 only the county and the city of Hereford, and the town of Leominster had members of Parliament (two each); and when Weobley was again represented, Herefordshire as a whole had eight members. In 1832 Weobley once more lost its two members; but as the county received an additional member, the total was only reduced from eight to seven. In 1867 Leominster was deprived of one of its members, the total of seven thus becoming six. In 1885 the reduction was much more considerable, the number of representatives being halved. This is the figure at present. Of the three, two are returned by the county and one by the city.

IX. Political History

The history of Herefordshire, though not without local features, is to a large extent the ordinary chronicle of a border county. Its earlier chapters are an uninspiring narrative of raids and counter-raids; and its later pages are the prosaic story of

the progressive steps by which the sword gave place to the ploughshare. Yet in spite of its chequered record, the history of the county has a certain political unity, which no change quite obscured. The greater part of the district which now constitutes Herefordshire was never a mere bone of contention between opposite factions, passing from hand to hand at every turn of fortune, but was a steadily maintained frontier. The Wye, which divides the county into two unequal halves, formed in early times a natural boundary between England and Wales. The left bank, when once it was seized by successive conquerors from the E., was never allowed to pass again into the hands of the disinherited Welsh ; but the county on the right of the river was generally left to them. The Romans, indeed, seem to have carried their roads across the Wye and to have penetrated into Monmouthshire. But the Saxons contented themselves with occupying the district E. and N. of the river, and strengthened the line of demarcation between their own territory and that of the Welsh by the erection of Offa's Dyke (p. 20). And though the Normans went further westward, and established themselves in the region between the Wye and the Monnow, yet they, too, whilst retaining the ground they won, did not, at least for a time, push far up the valley of the Dore.

The land, however, had a long history before any historian began to chronicle its changes of rulers. Its earlier vicissitudes are recorded only in the memorials which its earliest occupants reared upon the soil. The evidence of burial mounds

points to the fact that these islands have been possessed by three successive peoples. There was first a dark-haired race of long-skulled men, who used weapons of polished flint. They probably hailed originally from the Western shores of the Mediterranean, being perhaps akin to the modern Basques, and are generally called Iberians (Iberia being a Greek name for Spain).[1] These were subdued by a lighter-complexioned, round-skulled people, the Goidels, an offshoot of the great Celtic nation,[2] whose tools and weapons were of bronze. They in turn were partially ousted by another branch of the same widespread race, the Brythons, who were furnished with implements of iron. Nothing is known of the conflicts of these different tribes for the possession of the soil ; and the date of the arrival of the two Celtic peoples in this country is unknown. The introduction of bronze into Northern Europe is placed at about 800 B.C., and that of iron at about 500 B.C. ; and probably the bronze and iron ages in Britain were a few centuries later than the dates just given. As regards Herefordshire during this obscure period, all that can be safely asserted is that when the Romans set foot in Britain, first in B.C. 55, and for a second time in A.D. 43, the portion of the island which now forms the county was in the occupation partly of the Dobuni and partly of the Silures. The last were probably a people of mixed Iberic and Goidelic

[1] The Iberians seem to have been a stock of the *Mediterranean* race (as the term is used by ethnologists).

[2] The Celts belonged to a European race which is often distinguished by the name *Alpine*.

blood, with the former strain predominating[1]; and their special territory was Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire. It was amongst these hardy mountaineers that Caradog (Caratācus), a disinherited Brythonic chieftain whose capital was Camulodunum (Colchester), took refuge some time between A.D. 47 and 52, in the hope of organizing further resistance to the Romans. He appears to have been successful in his appeal to their martial instincts; for he speedily collected an army and led it to a final trial of strength with the Roman forces. Tacitus, the sole authority for what took place, is very vague in his description of the locality where this memorable conflict occurred; but either Coxall Knoll, between Shropshire and Herefordshire, or else Caer Caradog, near Clun in Shropshire, is usually regarded as the site of the struggle. The latter is the more probable, since the battle was joined in the territory of the Ordovices, and this tribe did not extend as far south as Herefordshire. The engagement ended in the defeat and capture of Caradog and the dispersal of his following; and from that time forward until 410 Roman rule in Central Britain was firmly secured.

That the Roman occupation of Herefordshire was a real settlement is proved by the fact that within the confines of the county are the sites of

[1] Tacitus observes, *Silurum colorati vultus, torti plerumque crines, et posita contra Hispania, Hiberos veteres traiecisse easque sedes occupasse fidem faciunt* (*Agr.* XI.). The Roman writer, in thinking that this country was opposite the Spanish peninsula, seems to have supposed it to be situated further out in the Atlantic than it really is.

three Roman stations, *Ariconium* (Weston-under-Penyard), *Bravonium* (Leintwardine), and *Magni*[1] or *Magna* (Kenchester). The last was a residential town, though of no considerable size. These stations were connected by roads, the course of which has with more or less certainty been traced. One, now usually called *Watling Street*, entered the N. of the county from *Viroconium* (Wroxeter), passed successively through *Bravonium* and *Magna*, and left the county near Walterstone in the direction of *Gobannium* (Abergavenny), whence it proceeded to *Isca Silurum* (Caerleon). Another left the first at *Magna*, and ran eastwards to Stretton Grandison, whence it turned S.E. towards *Glevum* (Gloucester). A third probably ran from *Glevum* through *Ariconium* to *Blestium* (Monmouth). The fact that the two chief centres of Roman military power on the W. border of the occupied portion of our island were as far away as Chester and Caerleon suggests that Hereford was a fairly tranquil region in Roman times. But the traces of villas in it are very few (see p. 45) ; and there is nothing to indicate the existence within it of Roman municipal life. As Professor Haverfield observes, the county can have played no prominent part in Roman Britain.

The civilization which the Romans brought into this country lasted for at least three centuries. How long it continued after the withdrawal of their troops in or about A.D. 410 it is impossible to say : the only thing known about its subsequent

[1] See p. 173.

vicissitudes is that it completely collapsed in the unsettled days which ensued. Probably it crumbled gradually, and its last remnants were swept away when the Saxons overran the country in the fifth and sixth centuries, carrying ravage and slaughter in all directions. For a time, indeed, the Saxon invasion meant for this island a relapse into barbarism, for the invaders found the country inhabited by a people in many ways more cultured than themselves. The Britons had enjoyed the advantages of Roman order, they had grown familiar with Roman comfort, and they had learnt the Christian faith ; but with the arrival of the Teutonic tribes all these things came to an end. The period of pillage and bloodshed, however, was succeeded in the seventh century by an era of consolidation and organization. It was probably by the Saxon tribe of the Hwiccas (whose name is thought to survive in the *Wych* near Malvern) that the neighbourhood round Hereford was first colonized ; and from their proximity to the old Roman station of *Magna* the settlers appear to have derived their subsequent designation of *Magesætas*. The district formed part of the great central Saxon kingdom of Mercia ; and one or two Hereford places, like Credenhill and Wolferlow, perhaps perpetuate the names of Mercian kings (see p. 71). Tradition associates Kingsland with King Merewald, who is said to have had a palace there (p. 179). A more trustworthy memorial connecting Herefordshire with a Mercian ruler is the dyke that bears the name of Offa. Previous to his reign the Saxons of Mercia had carried their arms into the territory of

the Welsh, but apparently with no great success. It was perhaps the failure of these campaigns which led Offa to abandon any further attempt to extend his dominions westwards, and to content himself with guarding the integrity of Mercia against incursions from without by the construction of a strong earthwork from the Dee to the Wye. Eastwards of this boundary no Welshman was to show himself under pain of mutilation. But whilst the dyke kept the Welsh from further trespassing on Saxon ground, its existence openly proclaimed the fact that the Saxons for the time had abandoned their attempts to subjugate Wales. Offa seems to have found his dominions sufficiently secured from Welsh attacks to allow him to make for himself a residence at Sutton Walls, where it is supposed that the atrocious murder of Ethelbert, an East Saxon king, was perpetrated in 792 (p. 244). So far as the rest of the now existing county of Hereford beyond the Wye was concerned, what the Saxons failed to achieve by the sword they were able to accomplish by a gradual process of absorption. The adjoining districts of Archenfield and Ewyas (as has been already observed) remained in Welsh hands, but their inhabitants seem to have accepted peaceably the Saxon supremacy on condition of their retaining their own laws and customs. This concession not only allayed their hostility but secured their co-operation, for in all further border conflicts the men of Archenfield and Ewyas claimed the privilege of marching in the van of their English allies.

The decline of the power of Mercia led to the supremacy of Wessex, which eventually incorporated

all the other Saxon kingdoms. When in the ninth century the Danes began to invade the country, Herefordshire suffered like other districts. Access to the county is easy from the estuary of the Severn; and on one occasion the Danes swarmed up the Bristol Channel, and laid waste the district of Archenfield, until repelled by the burgesses of Hereford.

After the Danes came the Normans; but the effects of the Norman Conquest in 1066 had been to some extent anticipated by the unpatriotic attitude of Edward the Confessor, and his fondness for foreigners. Before ever William the Conqueror landed in England, a Norman, Richard Fitz Scrob, built for himself a fortress known as "Richard's Castle," in the extreme N. of Herefordshire, and Osborn Pentecost erected a similar stronghold at Ewyas in the S.W. All that William I. did, when he became king, was to parcel out the district in a more thorough fashion amongst his personal followers. The city of Hereford was placed in the hands of William FitzOsborn; and new fortresses were planted at Clifford, Wigmore, Kilpeck, Longtown, and such other spots as would best enable local resistance to be stamped out. The men of Herefordshire, however, did not take kindly to the new state of things. Opposition to the Conqueror's rule lingered almost as long here as it did in the fens of Ely. Eadric "the Savage" harried the country-side as far as "the bridge of the Lugg," and was not persuaded to make his submission until 1070.

On the Welsh frontier the King left to his lieu-

tenants a good deal of independence ; and their enterprise succeeded in keeping the county free from Welsh incursions, whilst their genius for government promoted the prosperity of the district. Under the shelter of the castles, trading towns grew up, and secured various civic privileges. To Hereford, indeed, the liberties granted by FitzOsborn were so generous that the city's charter became a model for those of other municipalities.

Hereford figured in the troubles of Stephen's reign, for Earl Milo of Gloucester, who had become Earl of Hereford, was one of the chief supporters of Stephen's rival, the Empress Matilda. He was sufficiently powerful and influential to win for her the sympathy and aid of the neighbouring barons. In 1142, however, Stephen attacked the city with vigour, and compelled Milo, who had shut himself up within the walls of the castle, to surrender. Stephen, to celebrate his victory, entered the city in pomp ; and at the ensuing Whitsuntide sat crowned in the cathedral during the religious services.

In the reign of Edward II. a Herefordshire noble, Roger Mortimer of Wigmore, played a conspicuous part in the quarrel between the King and his consort Queen Isabella. He became the Queen's favourite and counsellor, and was instrumental not only in overthrowing the power of Edward's favourites the Despensers, but in dethroning and murdering the King himself. Roger Mortimer met with deserved punishment at the hands of Edward III. ; but the fortunes of his family were not ruined with him. Edward III. gave in marriage his

granddaughter Philippa to Edmund Mortimer, Roger's grandson; and their daughter Anne, who married the Earl of Cambridge, transmitted to her son Richard, Duke of York, a claim to the throne of England.

Early in the fifteenth century, shortly after the accession of Henry IV., Hereford experienced a serious Welsh invasion. Its leader was Owain Glyndwr, who in 1401 raised the standard of rebellion in order to avenge a private injury. The English forces that were sent to meet him were commanded by Sir Edmund Mortimer (son of the Edmund mentioned above); but they were defeated with great loss at Pilleth, in the adjoining county of Radnor; and their leader fell into the hands of the victors. Mortimer was allowed by Henry IV. to remain a captive amongst the Welsh, and he eventually married one of Glyndwr's daughters. In 1403 Glyndwr appeared before Leominster; and in the next year he raided Archenfield. This, however, was the last of his warlike exploits in the county, for not long afterwards his power was broken by the Prince of Wales (subsequently Henry V.); and when the Welsh chieftain again appeared in Herefordshire eight years later, it was as a wanderer seeking refuge at Monnington (where another daughter lived with her husband, Roger Monnington); and there he is thought to have died.

In the reign of Henry VI. a member of the house of Mortimer, Richard of York, became, in virtue of his descent from Philippa, who was the daughter of Edward III.'s third son Lionel, heir to the crown in the event of Henry having no child.

And even when a son was born to the latter, it could be, and was, contended that Richard's right was superior to that of any of the Lancastrian sovereigns, who were the descendants of John of Gaunt, Edward's fourth son. Since the Mortimers were connected with Herefordshire, the county may be said to have had a special interest in the ensuing Wars of the Roses, in which the dynastic quarrel was fought out ; and one of the battles that took place in the course of them was decided on Herefordshire soil. This was the battle of Mortimer's Cross, which occurred on 2nd February, 1461 (see p. 179), and in which the Yorkists, led by Edward, Earl of March, the heir of Richard of York, defeated the Lancastrians under the Earls of Wiltshire and Pembroke. Unfortunately no details of the battle survive, except that three suns are said to have been visible together on the morning of the fight, a sight taken by the Yorkists as an omen of victory. In the following month Edward, who on the male side was the scion of a Herefordshire house, became King of England.

Exciting times again ensued for Herefordshire when, in the seventeenth century, civil war broke out between Charles I. and Parliament. The local gentry, in general, were on the side of the King, though one or two prominent personages were enthusiastic Parliamentarians. The leaders of the Royalists were Lord Scudamore of Holm Lacy, the Crofts of Croft Castle, Hereford, and Yarpole, and the Coningsbys of Hampton Court ; whilst the chief supporters of the Parliament were Sir Robert Harley of Brampton Bryan, Sir Richard

Hopton of Hopton Castle, and the Kyrles of Much Marcle. The storm centre was Hereford. The importance of the city lay in the fact that it stood between the King at Nottingham and the levies which the Marquis of Worcester was busy raising for the King's support at Raglan in Monmouthshire. To cut Charles off from his expected reinforcements, Lord Stamford was dispatched by the Earl of Essex at the outbreak of the war in 1642 to seize the city. This he did; but finding it impossible for want of men and stores to maintain his position there, he contented himself with worsting his opponents in one or two skirmishes and then evacuated it. As soon as his back was turned the city was at once occupied by the Royalists, who, however, did not hold it for long. In the April of the next year, 1643, Waller, after taking Ross, appeared before the gates with a strong force, and after some fruitless negotiations cleared the garrison out of the city and captured Lord Scudamore. Waller's stay likewise was short. Satisfied with what he had done, he retired upon Gloucester, sacking Leominster on his way, and the Royalists once more marched in. Meanwhile Sir R. Harley had been fortifying his house at Brampton Bryan. His precautions were not premature, for in a short time the place was closely invested by Sir W. Vavasour. Harley himself was in London at the moment, but in his absence his wife, with great intrepidity, held the position for some months, but at last died of the strain. In the spring of the following year (1644) the slender garrison surrendered on terms to Col. Woodhouse, who had

already succeeded in capturing Hopton Castle. The next incident in the war within the confines of the county took place at Ledbury. That town was held by Col. Massey for the Parliament. To attack him Prince Rupert marched from Hereford, and engaging him dislodged him from the place, pursuing his forces along the road to Gloucester. In 1645, after Naseby, the King himself came to Herefordshire, in the hope of gathering a fresh army; but he failed to get men, and had to go elsewhere. By July in the same year the successes of the Parliament enabled larger forces to concentrate against Hereford; but though, by the middle of the month, a Scottish army under the Earl of Leven advanced against the city, the progress of the siege was slow. News arriving of the unexpected approach of Charles, the Earl raised the siege, and the King entered the city amidst great rejoicings. He did not, however, stay long; and after his withdrawal the siege was resumed. The place held out until December, when Col. Birch was dispatched with reinforcements; and as his operations were aided by a severe frost which hardened the roads and froze the river, he eventually succeeded in capturing it. Its castle was ordered to be demolished as a punishment for the trouble it had given; and the present condition of its site witnesses to the thoroughness with which its demolition was accomplished. The fighting around the city in the Civil War of the seventeenth century has been the last that Herefordshire has witnessed: since then its annals have been those of peace and prosperity.

X. Religious History

Of the religious beliefs of the prehistoric peoples that inhabited Herefordshire very little is known. The cult of the early Iberians is supposed by some to have been Druidism. This seems to have been a form of nature worship. Trees, especially the oak, on which grows the evergreen mistletoe, were held in great veneration, and were regarded as the abodes of spirits (see p. 14). The Iberians disposed of their dead by burial, and their general type of sepulchre was a long, chambered barrow, constructed of stone slabs and covered with earth. As some of these tombs were provided with food vessels, it is inferred that the dead man's spirit was believed to haunt the spot. The succeeding Celtic tribes were probably also nature worshippers. They appear to have reckoned a sun-goddess amongst their deities ; and rivers and streams were credited with being in the charge of guardian powers. The Celts, however, generally cremated their dead, whose ashes were placed in small receptacles covered with stones—a practice which, as contrasted with that of the Iberians, suggests that the spirits of the departed were believed to migrate to some distant world.

For our knowledge of the Christianity which in Romano-British times superseded these rude faiths we are indebted chiefly to an exuberant but untrustworthy tradition. The fact that most of our information on the subject is derived from legendary lives of particular saints points to the conclusion that the religious life of the period was

vigorous but sporadic, and owed its extension to the labours of prominent individuals. The famous Dyfrig is said to have established a great school at Hentland near the Wye, some 4 miles W. of Ross ; and the names of St. David and St. Beuno are also associated with the neighbouring districts of Archenfield and Ewyas. Religious leaders appear to have gathered round them, in various localities, communities of disciples over whom they exercised patriarchal and *quasi*-episcopal jurisdiction. From these settlements doubtless itinerant preachers were sent forth to evangelize the country and to establish fresh communities elsewhere. These semi-monastic institutions were mostly destroyed or dispersed by the Saxon invasion ; and as heathenism lasted longer in Mercia than in any other Saxon kingdom, Christianity for a while seems to have been extinguished in Herefordshire. When the Saxons at length accepted the Christian faith and re-established it in their own territories, they set up their own ecclesiastical organizations. As each kingdom was Christianized, it became the see of a single bishop, whether its extent was large or small. This arrangement involved so many disadvantages that Archbishop Theodore, towards the end of the seventh century, in the interest of Church order and efficiency, parcelled out the larger areas into smaller units ; and in 680 the unwieldy diocese of Mercia, which had its cathedral at Lichfield, was divided, and the Magesætas of Herefordshire received a bishop of their own. The Saxon bishops, like the Norman prelates after them, were men of affairs as well as

ecclesiastics ; and Harold's chaplain Leofgar, whom he promoted to the see of Hereford, lost his life in an attempt to recover certain lands which Harold had ceded to the Welsh.

With the occupation of the English throne by Norman rulers, the Church in this country naturally fell largely under foreign influence. Foreigners were obtruded into English and Welsh sees ; existing monastic institutions were re-organized on continental lines ; and new monasteries were established in connexion with foreign abbeys and filled with foreign monks. The Herefordshire monasteries were very numerous and well endowed, and belonged to several different Orders. All the monastic Orders, except the *Gilbertine*, were of foreign origin, but were introduced into England at various periods and were not all of pre-Norman date. They were distinguished chiefly by their "rule" of life. The rule of *St. Benedict* was adopted in England in the seventh century, and until the eleventh century all the English monasteries were of this order. In 1077 the *Cluniac* priory of Lewis was founded ; but as all houses of that Order were dependent upon the parent habitation at Cluny, the Cluniac monks were never popular on this side of the channel. The *Cistercian* Order owed its foundation to an Englishman, though its first settlement was in Burgundy. It was intended for the observance of a stricter rule than the ordinary, and it at first aimed at a studied simplicity of life. Its members avoided the towns and buried themselves in remote and desolate regions where they devoted themselves to sheep farming ; but

the wealth which they amassed by the profits of the wool trade, of which they secured the monopoly, led them at last to discard their rigorous habits, and their houses became some of the wealthiest in the land. The *Carthusians*, founded a little earlier, were a still stricter brotherhood. They had no "common life," the monks ate their meals in their own cells, and only met one another in church and chapter. On account of the severity of its ideals, this Order attracted few recruits in England and was unrepresented in Herefordshire. The *Austin* (or Black) *Canons* were mainly a clerical Order, who professedly followed the rule of St. Augustine, but in practice differed little from the Benedictines. An offshoot of theirs, the *Præmonstratensian Canons*, were also established in the county. Another offshoot of the Augustinians were the *Canons of St. Victor*. These are said to have had only three Houses in the whole of the country, but one of the three was in Herefordshire. The military Orders of the *Knights Templars* and the *Knights Hospitallers* both originated at the time of the Crusades. The former, whose establishments were called Preceptories, were vowed to the defence of the Holy Sepulchre ; and the latter, who were housed in Commanderies, were the ambulance section of the Crusading army. Besides the numerous bodies of monks scattered up and down the county, there were in the city of Hereford three habitations of *Friars*. Like the monks, the friars were enrolled in different Orders, of which the chief were the *Dominicans*, the *Franciscans*, and the *Carmelites*, who were respectively known as

Black, Grey, and White Friars. The friars in Hereford belonged to the first and the second of these Orders. The county also had a few nunneries.

The mediæval Church system showed signs of breaking up in Herefordshire rather earlier than elsewhere in the country. In the border counties the Reformation was anticipated by the growth of Lollardy. In the Marches the ecclesiastical, like the civil, control was weak, and it was difficult to bring men to book for their offences. A local protector was often forthcoming, and Wales offered a ready asylum in times of persecution. In Herefordshire the influence of Wycliffe's teaching was widely felt, and he had many followers. His personal friend, Nicholas of Hereford, who attained some distinction by his translation of the Old Testament,[1] was a native of the county, and, like his leader, found a patron in John of Gaunt. It was into Herefordshire that William Swinderby brought his novel opinions, after abortive trials for heresy at Lincoln and Leicester; and Walter Brut, a leading layman of the county, was a notorious encourager of the Lollard clergy. The only local martyr, however, was Sir John Oldcastle (Lord Cobham), a distinguished Herefordshire soldier and landowner, who gave the authorities much trouble, and after evading capture for some

[1] The translation made by Nicholas stops abruptly at Baruch iii. 20 in the middle of a sentence: and it is supposed that this sudden break marks the time when he was summoned to London to answer for his opinions. See Sir F. G. Kenyon, *Our Bible and the Ancient Manuscripts*, p. 200.

years, finally perished at the stake in 1417 for his adherence to the new views.

In 1534 the Papal Supremacy was abolished in England, and the work of ecclesiastical spoliation was begun. In 1536 the lesser monasteries were suppressed, and their destruction was followed by the fall of the greater houses two years later. Among the most important of the monastic establishments, of one kind or another, in Herefordshire at the time of the Dissolution of the monasteries were Leominster (Benedictine), Clifford (Cluniac), Abbey Dore (Cistercian), Flanesford, Wigmore, and Wormsley (Austin), Holm Lacy (Præmonstratensian), and Shobdon (Canons of St. Victor). There were Commanderies of Knights Hospitallers at Dinmore, Garway, and Hereford; nunneries at Aconbury and Lymebrook; and habitations of Black and Grey Friars at Hereford. The monasteries of St. Guthlac and St. Peter at Hereford, and the priories of Ewyas, Monkland, Crasswall, and Kilpeck (the first two of which were connected with foreign houses) had been previously suppressed in the reign of Edward IV.; and a Preceptory of Knights Templars at Garway had been dissolved in 1308 and its property transferred to the Hospitallers. Apart from the dissolution of the monastic houses the Reformation did not greatly affect the course of social life in the county. It was not, indeed, the first time that even monasteries had been robbed by royal hands; and in other respects the general work of the Church went on with much less interruption than might have been expected. Most of the parochial clergy

remained in undisturbed possession of their benefices; and the Cathedral Chapter, which had always been secular in constitution, was not molested. Nevertheless, the dissolution of the monasteries did much harm to the cause of education in the county, which, in mediæval days, is said to have been one of the best equipped, from an educational standpoint, in the whole kingdom.

During the Civil War of the seventeenth century the Cathedral and many other churches in the county suffered severely from the fanaticism of the Puritan soldiery; and many of the loyalist clergy were expelled from their livings. In the Cathedral Dean Croft, with, perhaps, more zeal than discretion, upbraided the soldiers for the havoc which they had wrought; and the men were with difficulty restrained from replying to his remonstrances with their muskets. Elsewhere painted windows were destroyed and images defaced. But the Cromwellian régime was a mere interlude; and at the Restoration the previous ecclesiastical position was re-established.

During the episcopate of Bishop Bisse in 1713, the meeting of the three choirs of Hereford, Gloucester, and Worcester, whose periodical assembling is still an event of much interest in the musical world, first took place. Professional performers were engaged for these festivals as early as 1733; and for some years the performances were directed by Dr. Boyce, who was appointed conductor in 1737.

The diocese of Hereford is larger than the county, for it includes the southern portion of

Shropshire, and some outlying parishes in Radnorshire and Worcestershire. The district of Archenfield once belonged to Llandaff, but was transferred to Hereford as far back as 1100. Ewyas, however, was included in St. David's until 1852.

XI. Antiquities

The chequered character of the county's history is shown by the number and variety of the antiquities still occurring within its borders. Every successive race which has occupied the district has contributed something to the store, though the majority of their memorials have perished. The existing relics are most conveniently described under the periods to which they belong, *viz.*, Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, and Mediæval (from the Norman Conquest).

I. *Prehistoric.*—In a well-cultivated county like Herefordshire the prehistoric monuments which have escaped destruction are naturally few, though a large quantity of miscellaneous articles have from time to time been turned up by the spade. The *Neolithic* implements which have been discovered are not very important. A stone chipped celt and two flint arrowheads found at Hereford, some chipped and ground flints disinterred in the neighbourhood of Ledbury, and a barbed arrowhead picked up at Vowchurch virtually complete the list. The relics of the *Bronze Age* wrested from the soil have been rather more numerous. Socketed celts, palstaves, and swords have been unearthed at Aston Ingham, Bishopston, Bucknall, Dorstone, Hereford,

Much Marcle, Turnastone, Vowchurch, Weston-under-Penyard, and various other places. British coins have been found at Kenchester, Leominster, and Weston. Of the more permanent memorials of the period the most notable are some burial mounds, belonging (it is supposed) to the Bronze Age, at Brandon, Llangarren, and St. Weonards, and the megalithic remains at Dorstone and Huntsham Ferry (near Goodrich). Of these latter one is the dismantled cromlech known as *Arthur's Stone* (p. 128), the other is the *Queen Stone*, a slab of Old Red Sandstone conglomerate, with deeply-grooved sides, the significance of which is uncertain. The prehistoric encampments within the county are very numerous, and are said to amount to nearly seventy. The entrenchments consist either of a single rampart or of a series of alternate ramparts and ditches, carried round the summit of an eminence, or constructed on more level, though usually high, ground. The top of the earthwork may have been surmounted by a stockade of timber. These fortifications were probably designed for the defence of the actual homes of their builders; and though some may possibly have served only as refuges in time of attack for people who normally lived outside them, there seems to be evidence that the larger prehistoric camps were certainly the sites of permanent habitations. There appear to be no good grounds for associating camps of a particular shape with any particular people; the Romans were the first to adopt a distinctive plan for their fortifications, and even theirs were not always uniform. Many earthworks may originally have been the pro-

ductions of the men of the Neolithic Age ; but, if so, such were doubtless occupied and improved in later periods. The most remarkable camps in Herefordshire are Aconbury, Aymestrey, Brandon, Caplar, Coxall Knoll, Credenhill, Croft Ambry, Dinedor, Little Doward, Hereford Beacon, Ivington, Kimbolton (or Bach), Risbury, Sutton Walls, Wall Hills (Ledbury), Wall Hills (Thornbury), and Wapley.

II. *Roman.*—Probably few surviving camps are of Roman origin, for as Roman encampments were not intended to be permanent, their earthen ramparts were usually of comparatively slight elevation, and would quickly be levelled, especially as they were, in general, on low, or at least level ground, which would soonest be brought under cultivation. Roman *stations*, on the other hand, were more strongly defended, the rampart of earth being replaced by a stone wall, and the external fosse being of considerable depth. The general plan of a Roman fortification, whether temporary or permanent, was rectangular, with four gates, one in each of the sides. As has been already stated (p. 26), there were three Roman stations within the county, *viz.*, at Kenchester, Leintwardine, and Weston-under-Penyard. Mention has also been made of the roads that connected them. At Abbey Dore a small portion of the original paving of the Roman "Stone Street," which ran southwards from Kenchester, has been uncovered; but elsewhere the course of the Roman highways can only be inferred from the names of the places lying along the routes, such as Stretford and Stretton (see p. 67). Of

the Roman stations Kenchester was the most important. It was a small town surrounded by a stone wall; and the discoveries on the site (see p. 173) have shown it to have been a place of some comfort. Leintwardine, on the other hand, was merely a military post. The third site occupied by the Romans—Weston-under-Penyard—was, as indicated by its ash-heaps, a manufacturing centre, which derived its ore and fuel from the neighbouring Forest of Dean. Traces of smelting operations occur also at Peterstow, on the opposite side of the Wye. Pavements and other objects pointing to the existence of Roman villas have been found at Putley, Walterstone, and Whitchurch. Roman altars have been discovered at Hereford and Tretire. Coins, statuettes, bracelets, lamps, pottery, and other articles have come to light at Aston Ingham, Brampton Bryan, Bishop's Frome, Fownhope, Goodrich, Ross, Stoke Prior, Stretton Grandison, and Walford. The largest finds of coins occurred at Aston Ingham and Walford: at the former nearly 2000, and at the latter as many as 18,000, were discovered, the dates of the coins ranging from A.D. 290 to 366. It has been inferred, however, from the fact that most of the Herefordshire relics of this period are rather Romano-British than strictly Roman in character, that the Roman colonists were never very numerous in the district, but that the natives to a large extent had succeeded in acquiring something of Roman civilization.

III. *Saxon.*—The Saxons were not, as a rule, builders of camps. They came as invaders and settlers; and it has been rightly observed by Mr.

A. H. Allcroft that earthworks, except where they mark a military occupation, like that of the Romans, are the productions of the people attacked, not of their assailants. It was only when the Saxons in turn had to defend the land which they had acquired against fresh invaders like the Danes, or against attempts on the part of the dispossessed Britons to recover their heritage, that they constructed defensive works. The most notable of such in Herefordshire is the great Dyke built by Offa, King of Mercia, to protect his territory against the Welsh. That this was its purpose is shown by the position of the ditch, which is on the western side. The dyke seems to have extended from the Dee to the Wye, and portions of it are still visible within our county (see pp. 206, 249).

IV. *Mediæval.*—The relics which have come down from the Middle Ages are so many and varied that it is desirable to group them further according to their character, *viz.* (1) Military, (2) Ecclesiastical, (3) Domestic.

(1) *Military.*—The Welsh Marches, as being some of the most unsettled districts in the country, were well fortified. The March lords were not only under the necessity of defending their own private estates, but were entrusted with the task of policing the frontiers. The positions of their castles were therefore determined as much by strategic considerations as by personal convenience. They were erected in the situations which were best suited for guarding the approaches to the county; and were arranged in a carefully co-ordinated system in such a manner as to enable their occupants to

render mutual support in time of attack. In Herefordshire they are found mostly along the river valleys, which in such a hill-girt land afforded the readiest means of access to the interior. All the more important and most easily defended positions along these lines of advance were strongly occupied. Clifford Castle, near Hay, held the gate of the upper Wye; Ewyas Lacy and Ewyas Harold blocked the passes from the Black Mountains; Huntington, Richard's Castle, and Wigmore protected the hilly N.W. and N. frontiers; Wilton and Goodrich in the S. kept open the communications with the Monmouthshire fortresses lower down the Wye; and a number of subsidiary strongholds, like Lyonshall and Weobley, formed outlying defences for the central citadel of Hereford, which commanded the chief passage across the river. The majority of these castles were erected in Feudal times. The castles mentioned in Doomsday were five in number: Clifford, Ewyas Harold, Snodhill, Wigmore and Aureton (which is thought to be Richard's Castle). Ewyas Harold and Richard's Castle were built by the foreign adherents of Edward the Confessor to secure a personal foothold in the district. Though no mention is made of a castle at Hereford in Doomsday, the city seems to have been fortified to some extent before the Conquest. All the castles were re-constructed from time to time as the progress of military science suggested. The earliest type of castle was a moated mound (or *motte*), crowned by a wooden tower, and surrounded by an earthen rampart which was surmounted by a palisade. The mounds were

usually circular, and the moats were often "wet," the existing water-filled moats being generally of Norman origin. The moat, whether wet or dry, was spanned by a bridge of timber, affording entrance to the fortalice within it. The further side of the moat might be defended by a second stockaded rampart of earth. In many cases the castle consisted only of the *motte* and its wooden tower (as at St. Weonards) : in others it comprised, in addition, a court or bailey outside the moat, defended by another moat or an earthwork. Occasionally there was more than one court. Norman *mottes* vary much in size, sometimes being (according to Mr. Allcroft) as high as 100 ft., and having a circuit of 1000 ft., though Herefordshire has none so large as this. They were generally built on level ground, and are frequently found in close proximity to the parish church : instances of this occur at Almeley, Eardisland, Eardisley, Lingen, and Staunton-on-Arrow. The next step in the development of the castle took place when the wooden tower was replaced by a stone keep, and the palisade superseded by a stone wall. From these simple beginnings, the fortification was gradually expanded into an elaborate fortress, with numerous watch-towers, and handsome state apartments. It was not, of course, every wooden fort that was exchanged for a fort of stone. In some cases the owner could not afford to substitute masonry for wood, whilst in other instances the artificial mound itself was unsuited to bear the weight of a heavy structure. Where the substitution was effected, the stone tower was commonly rectangular. In border

GOODRICH CASTLE, THE ROUND TOWER

counties like Herefordshire, Norman castles were naturally numerous; but unfortunately many of them have been almost or altogether demolished. Hereford Castle was destroyed by order of Parliament in 1654. Of the surviving fortresses Goodrich is much the best preserved and the most interesting. More or less considerable remains still exist at Brampton Bryan, Wigmore, and Wilton; and fragments of masonry survive at Clifford, Huntington, Kilpeck, Longtown, and Snodhill. Of the others there is little now to be seen except the earthworks—the mound with its encircling fosse, and perhaps the rampart that defended the court. When at a later period castles for residential purposes were replaced by mansions, the defensive moat was often retained. Many instances are found of moated manor-houses; and of such Herefordshire has some examples, as at Canon Frome.

(2) *Ecclesiastical*—(*a*) *Churches*.—In a purely rural county like Herefordshire ecclesiastical architecture is necessarily a prominent subject of interest. In many parishes the church is the only public building possessed of any antiquity. Often it has come down from very remote days. The political and social changes, with their successive alterations of faith and custom, which the parish has passed through have generally left some impress upon its walls. It is perhaps not sufficiently realized that the church was something more than a place of worship. It was the centre round which the whole village life, secular as well as sacred, revolved: it was town-hall as well as sanctuary. Very often it has a longer history behind it than even the

existing fabric testifies, for the ravages of time have had to be made good; and churches have not only been transformed but wholly replaced.

Some of our ecclesiastical buildings go back to Saxon days, and even further, but such are comparatively rare, few of that distant date having survived until our own century. The reason for the disappearance of most of them is that in that period they were generally built of too perishable materials to withstand the shock of time and stress of circumstance. The first great era of church building was the *Norman* period. The Normans virtually created the parish church as we now know it. Even the pre-Norman work, of which some remains still exist in different parts of the kingdom, often owed its character to the continental influences which penetrated the country in the reign of Edward the Confessor. But of this there is little in our county. Real Norman work, on the other hand, is plentiful, and much of it is, in its way, magnificent. But the story of a parish church is a story of development. Most of the early churches have been altered and extended since Norman days. Sometimes the reason for such change has been the necessity for additional protection against the weather (such as a porch would afford); sometimes it has been the need of greater accommodation for the congregation (supplied by the construction or enlargement of aisles); sometimes it has been the desire to have greater scope for a more elaborate ritual; perhaps oftenest it has been the wish to maintain masses for the dead (which led to the erection of chantry chapels,

such as survive at Abbey Dore, Bosbury, Eye, Kington, and Ross). Buildings also grew larger and more splendid as workmen discovered better structural devices or acquired a more complete mastery over their tools and materials. The development, too, of such arts as wood-carving and glass-making led to the provision of facilities for the display of their products. The fabrics were generally constructed of the materials that were most easily obtainable in the neighbourhood. In Herefordshire there occurred much good building stone which lent itself easily to manipulation, though it was not remarkable for durability. As this workable sandstone is widely distributed throughout the county, the Herefordshire churches are fairly consistent in tone and colour. No doubt the monasteries, as the chief schools of artistic craftsmanship, exercised a preponderating influence upon the ecclesiastical architecture of the day. Possessed of large estates, and responsible as they often were for providing for the spiritual wants of their tenantry, they could both furnish funds and supply workmen for much church building. This should have been especially the case in Herefordshire, where monasteries were numerous; but sometimes the landowner, and, in industrial districts, very frequently the trades guilds, found the necessary resources. Specially trained bands of craftsmen, who travelled from place to place, were probably employed in the erection of the larger and finer churches; but in rural districts the churches were generally put up by local masons, a circumstance which

accounts for the existence here and there of local peculiarities.

The itinerant builder (often a foreigner) was largely employed by the Normans, as it took the Englishman, accustomed as he then was to a ruder life, many years to acquire a mastery of the finer arts. His apprenticeship, however, stood him in good stead, and he finally succeeded in evolving a style of his own, free from all trace of foreign influences. It was in the thirteenth century that native workmen first showed signs of progress and independence, and initiated the *Early English* style. The churches of this period, though as substantial as those of Norman times, exhibit a much greater refinement of design, and a more judicious economy of material. They are chiefly distinguished by the predominance of the pointed arch (in place of the rounded arch of the Normans) and the vigour of their ornamental detail. One of the advantages gained by the use of the pointed, as compared with the round, arch was the possibility of constructing vaults of greater height and span. The windows characteristic of this phase of architecture (usually known as "lancet" windows) have often been retained in the chancels when they have been replaced by later types elsewhere ; and our county affords some excellent illustrations of this practice (*e.g.* Kington). A conspicuous feature of this style is the gracefulness with which the foliage that is sometimes used to decorate the capitals of columns seems to grow out of the mouldings. In the fourteenth century church architecture, though still retaining the structural traditions of the pre-

ceding period, entered upon a more florid stage of development, known as *Decorated*, and became remarkable for its intricate ornamentation and the employment of elaborate window tracery. Where in the preceding style several lancets had been enclosed under a single containing arch, openings were now made in the intervening solid stone. These openings at first took the shape of geometrical figures (*Geometrical tracery*); but later the lines became less stiff (*Flowing tracery*). A characteristic ornament used to adorn the framing and mullions of windows is the "ball-flower". This type of architecture is well represented in Herefordshire, both in the larger and in the smaller churches, and often appears in chantry chapels that have been added to earlier structures. In the fifteenth century this Decorated style was superseded by one which was less exuberant but hardly less ambitious, and which relied for its effectiveness rather upon nobility of design than upon richness of detail. The churches of this period (known as *Perpendicular*) were, as a rule, spacious, lofty, and well lighted. They were frequently conspicuous for their fine towers and their windows of painted glass; but their chief characteristic was the partiality shown by their builders for vertical and horizontal lines. This type, which began towards the end of the fourteenth century and lasted all through the fifteenth into the sixteenth, underwent but little modification until the Reformation, which practically for a time put a stop to church building altogether. The surmounting of towers with spires, which started in the thirteenth century, became

very common in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, many spires being constructed of wood. The use of painted glass in the windows, which tended to darken the interior of the buildings, frequently led to the elevation of the roof of the nave (more rarely of the chancel) and the insertion of a clerestory. In Herefordshire, however, some of the clerestories belong to the E.E. style, whilst a few seem to be earlier still.

The ecclesiastical architecture of Herefordshire as a whole exhibits considerable variety, most of the periods just enumerated being adequately represented. Norman work perhaps predominates, though there are many good specimens of Early English and Decorated craftsmanship. There are few exclusively Perpendicular churches, though most buildings exhibit some Perpendicular features, especially in the clerestories and the upper stages of the towers. In order of architectural variety and merit the Cathedral, of course, stands pre-eminent. Though not in the very front rank of the greater churches of England, and impaired to some extent by ruin and ill-informed restoration, it is nevertheless of much dignity, and possesses many features of considerable beauty. The priory church of Leominster, too, is a building of great size, and of outstanding architectural interest. Ledbury, Ross, Kington, and Bromyard, again, possess very fine churches, Ledbury cnurch being especially notable. Among the rural churches Madley and Weobley are conspicuous. Abbey Dore, though now only a fragment, is a splendid specimen of pure Gothic. Hereford All Saints has many claims

upon the notice of the antiquary. There are churches, too, of more than ordinary interest at Burghill, Canon Pyon, Clehonger, Dilwyn, Garway, Much Marcle, and St. Weonards. The small churches at Kilpeck, Moccas, and Rowlstone are famous for their elaborate Norman work. Kingsland and Bredwardine have peculiarities worthy of attention. One striking feature of the Herefordshire churches is the unusual number possessing detached towers ; Bosbury, Garway, Holmer, Ledbury, Pembridge, Richard's Castle, and Yarpole all have this distinction. The detached towers of Pembridge and Yarpole are of an exceptional character. Those at the other localities named are more commonplace. There are some fine screens in the county, and much interesting woodwork of a varied character ; but comparatively little ancient glass. The churches, as a rule, are rich in monuments, but there are few brasses.

To the student of architecture the following list of places where illustrations of the various architectural periods may be found will be of service, though it does not claim to be exhaustive, nor is it implied that all the churches named are, in the main, of the style under which they are placed. Inclusion under a particular heading only means that the churches mentioned contain typical examples of characteristic windows, doors, or other features of the period indicated ; and consequently several names occur under more than one heading.

Norman.—Acton Beauchamp, Bishop's Frome, Brampton Abbots, Bredwardine, Bromyard, Cusop,

Eardisley, Edvin Ralph, Garway, Hereford Cathedral, Kilpeck, King's Pyon, Ledbury, Leominster, Little Hereford, L nton, Middleton, Moccas, Monkland, Peterchurch, Rowlstone, Shobdon (ruins), Tarrington, Tyberton, Wellington, Weobley, Weston-under-Penyard, Whitbourne, Woolhope, Fownhope.

Transitional.—Bosbury, Bridge Sollers, Eye, Hampton Bishop, Kingstone.

Early English.—Abbey Dore, Avenbury, Bromyard, Byford, Coddington, Cradley, Ewyas Harold, Hereford Cathedral, Hereford All Saints, Holmer, Kington, Leominster, Madley, Orleton.

Decorated.—Allensmore, Almeley, Canon Pyon, Hereford Cathedral, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster, Madley, Mansel Lacy, Pembridge, Weobley.

Perpendicular. — Cradley, Dilwyn, Eardisley, Hereford Cathedral, Leominster, Mathon.

The most remarkable *fonts* are at Aston Ingham (lead), Bosbury, Bredwardine, Brobury, Burghill (lead), Byford, Castle Frome, Eardisley, Hereford Cathedral, Hope-under-Dinmore, Kenchester, Kilpeck, Madley, Michaelchurch, Moccas, Orleton, Shobdon.

Several churches retain their ancient *screens*. There is a stone screen at Welsh Newton; and some interesting timber screens occur at Abbey Dore, Aylton, Aymestrey, Brinsop, Burghill, Canon Pyon, Dilwyn, Eyton, Foy, How Caple, Kenderchurch, Llandinabo, Pixley, St. Margaret's, St. Weonards, Withington.

There is *woodwork* of other descriptions at Alme-

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL, THE FONT

ley, Hereford All Saints, Hereford St. Peter's, Kinnersley, Madley, Vowchurch, Wigmore.

Some ancient *glass* survives in Allensmore, Brinsop, Credenhill, Dilwyn, Eaton Bishop, Goodrich, Hereford Cathedral, Kingsland, Madley, Moccas, Orleton, Richard's Castle (the old church), Ross, Sarnesfield, St. Weonards, Tarrington, Weobley.

Examples of pre-Reformation *plate* are preserved at Bacton, Canon Norton, Dorstone, Leominster, and in the Library of Hereford Cathedral (p. 162).

The churchyard *crosses* in most parishes have been destroyed, only the bases surviving; but the carved heads still remain *in situ* at Bosbury, King's Caple, Hentland, Knill, Madley, Putley, and Sellack. At Tedstone Delamere the head is in the lych-gate wall.

(*b*) *Monuments.*—The desire for remembrance was just as strong in the mediæval as in the modern mind. Accordingly most ancient churches preserve personal memorials of some sort, though a great many monuments have been destroyed or defaced by the ignorant zeal of the iconoclast. The earliest memorials were mere floor slabs marked with an incised cross, or bearing on its surface an engraved figure. The incised and figured slab never went out of use, and many examples of various dates are to be met with, as at Avenbury, Aymestrey, Foy, Hope-under-Dinmore, Ledbury, Stretton Sugwas, Turnastone, West Hide; but by a natural process of evolution the figure (so to speak) rose from the slab through different stages of relief, until it emerged as a fully developed effigy. Effigies in the earlier stages of development will be found at Aston Ingham, Llangarren, and other localities.

To secure for the monument both an artistic setting and also protection from injury it was either recessed into a wall under a decorative canopy, mounted upon an altar tomb, or enclosed in a shrine. Sometimes it was further safeguarded by the erection of an iron grille. Examples of both the shrine and the grille may be seen in Hereford Cathedral. It was with the same intention of securing greater permanence that the artist was led eventually to engrave his figures on brass instead of on the surface of a stone. Effigies were originally fashioned in freestone; but a desire for greater refinement in detail brought about the gradual substitution of alabaster. In Bredwardine Church there are examples of both the former and the latter material. Wooden effigies, though rare, occasionally occur. There are two in Herefordshire, one at Clifford (representing a priest) and the other at Much Marcle (representing a layman). Male figures, if knights, are depicted in the armour of their period. Thus effigies dating from 1180 to 1250 [1] have hauberks of chain mail, over which is a sleeveless surcoat parted in front, with the sword placed across the front of the legs. Between 1250 and 1325 there is additional protection for the shoulders and knees, and the helmet is conical. Between 1325 and 1350 the arms and legs are covered with plates of steel, and the surcoat is replaced by the *cyclas*, a coat shorter in the front than at the back, and laced at the side. Between 1350 and 1410 the hauberk is almost completely covered by a closely-fitting

[1] The dates are taken, with some slight modification, from Mr. C. H. Ashdown's valuable work on *Arms and Armour*.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL, THE SHRINE OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTELUPE

leather jerkin (called a *jupon*), and the neck is protected by a kind of curtain of chain mail (called a *camail*) suspended from the base of the helm. The sword, fastened by a hip-belt, hangs straight down the left leg. Between 1410 and 1430 plate armour takes the place of chain armour; the neck is guarded by a gorget, and the lower part of the body by hoops (*taces*) of steel; there is no surcoat; and the sword at the side is attached to a belt crossing the taces diagonally. Between 1430 and 1500 the plate armour is heavier; the shoulders, elbows, and thighs are protected by *pauldrons*, *coudières*, and *tuilles* respectively; and the sword hangs across the lower part of the body. Of these varieties of armour there are good examples at Bredwardine, Clehonger, Dilwyn, Hereford Cathedral, King's Pyon, Kington, Ross, Stretford, and other places in the county. The effigies of clerics represent them in their vestments (as at Ledbury); judges are portrayed in their robes of office (as at Ross); and merchants or notaries are shown carrying a kind of satchel or purse, or some other symbol of their station (as at Much Marcle). Females are habited in the costume of the day (as at King's Pyon, Kington, and Ross), or, if under vows, in an appropriate garb (as at Pembridge). Though most effigies of dates prior to the seventeenth century are in a recumbent position, convention demanded that the drapery should be sculptured as if the figures were standing upright. When a man and his wife are portrayed as lying side by side, the occasional discrepancy in size is said to be indicative of some difference in social importance;

whilst the position of the husband, either on the right or on the left of his wife, is believed to show whether he inherited his estates in his own right or obtained them by virtue of his marriage. It is thought that some diminutive effigies (as at Abbey Dore, Castle Frome, and Clehonger) are memorials merely of a heart interment, though in some cases of the kind a full-sized figure is shown, holding a heart in its hand (as at Ewyas Harold). In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries the monuments of a family were generally placed in a chantry chapel annexed to the church, at the altar of which a special priest was maintained for the celebration of masses for the departed. At the Reformation the revenues of these chapels were confiscated, but in most cases the buildings and their memorials remain. In the seventeenth century the altar tomb, with its recumbent figure, was largely superseded by a mural monument with the effigy in the attitude of prayer. A distinguishing feature of this type of monument is the representation, in side panels, of the children of the person commemorated, as at Castle Frome, Much Cowarne, Much Dewchurch, Kinnersley, Ledbury, and Lugwardine.

The following churches, among others, contain effigies: Abbey Dore, Bishop's Frome, Bodenham, Brampton Bryan, Bredwardine, Burghill, Castle Frome, Clehonger, Croft, Dilwyn, Ewyas Harold, Eye, Hereford Cathedral, Holm Lacy, Kington, King's Pyon, Ledbury, Madley, Moccas, Much Cowarne, Much Dewchurch, Much Marcle, Pembridge, Ross, Stretford, Tarrington, Weobley, West Hide.

The county is not at present rich in *brasses*, numerous churches having been despoiled of those which they once possessed; but a few (mostly small) survive in Brampton Abbots, Burghill, Clehonger, Colwall, Hereford Cathedral, Ledbury, Llandinabo, and Marden.

(*c*) *Bells*.—There are still a few mediæval bells in the county. A great many which had survived the changes of the Reformation were taken down and sold when Queen Elizabeth issued her order in 1558 for the removal of Popish ornaments from the churches. Still more were melted down and recast at the introduction of change ringing in 1637, the earlier bells being found unsuitable for the purpose. Surviving mediæval bells are for the most part inscribed with Latin invocations to the Virgin or to various saints (as at Brinsop), whilst post-Reformation bells often bear a moralizing verse (as at Canon Pyon) or a loyal wish (as at Holmer). Among the places where pre-Reformation bells occur, or are reported to occur, are Brinsop, Harewood, Laysters, Letton, Pembridge, Pipe and Lyde, Rowlstone, Thornbury, and Upper Sapey.

(*d*) *Dedications*.—The nearness of Herefordshire to the Welsh border has caused several churches to be dedicated to Welsh saints (for instances see pp. 123, 202, 204, 237). There are also a few interesting dedications of other than Welsh origin (pp. 102, 129, 144). A notable number of churches are named after St. Michael and All Angels, in addition to others that are called after the archangel alone.

(*e*) *Monasteries*.—There were several monastic

establishments in the county in Pre-Reformation times, but none of any outstanding importance. Some underwent modification in the course of time, and certain of the small cells in connexion with foreign communities were suppressed before the general dissolution of the monasteries. The minster churches of some still survive ; of others even these have disappeared ; and the domestic buildings of all of them have perished. There are a few fragmentary ruins of Crasswall Priory and of the Black Friary at Hereford. The religious houses which once existed in the county are the following :—

Benedictine—Leominster, St. Guthlac's and St. Peter's at Hereford, Brockbury, Ewyas Harold ; *Cistercians* — Abbey Dore ; *Cluniac* — Clifford ; *Augustinian* — Flanesford, Wormsley, Wigmore, Aconbury (nuns), Lymebrook (nuns) ; *Præmonstratensian*—Holm Lacy ; *Canons of St. Victor*—Shobdon ; *Knight Templars*—Garway, Hereford ; *Knight Hospitallers* — Dinmore, Hereford, Garway ; *Friars, Black and Grey*—Hereford. Cells in connexion with foreign houses—Lyre Ocle, Crasswall, Titley, Kilpeck, Monkland.

(3) *Domestic.*—Purely domestic architecture can scarcely be said to have existed at all during the early Middle Ages. The great landowners in feudal times lived in their castles, and the halls of their underlords were half-military in character. In the later castles some attention was paid to domestic comfort ; but in the earlier habitations of nobles and squires alike military considerations predominated, whilst the dwellings of the peasantry

were hovels. Town houses were mostly of timber. It was the abolition of the feudal system after the Wars of the Roses, and the substitution of the protection of the law for the earlier methods of self-defence that led to the multiplication of country residences. In an unsettled border county like Herefordshire domestic architecture was late in its development, and belongs largely to the Jacobean and subsequent periods, though the county possesses several manor houses of earlier date. The mediæval manor house consisted chiefly of a hall in which the lord lived with his servants and ate at the same table. Privacy was not studied, though a withdrawing room, or solar, was provided at one end of the common apartment for the ladies of the family. The kitchen and offices were generally detached buildings. Protection was sought from intrusion by surrounding the courtyard with a moat, which was sometimes commanded by a gatehouse. The hall remained the central feature of the manor house right down to the Tudor period; but with the growth of comfort and luxury, extra accommodation in the shape of private apartments was from time to time added to the main block. In the mediæval house no attention was paid to formal design; additions were made to the fabric as the convenience of the moment suggested; and these buildings derive their picturesqueness entirely from their irregular and unstudied arrangement. In Tudor and Elizabethan times, when great families aimed at outward magnificence, house planning came to be more regarded; the manor house was superseded

by the mansion, and pains were taken to make the exterior as imposing as possible. Italian influence began to be felt, and led to the imitation of classical models. The central hall was retained in accordance with tradition, but it now became an entrance chamber from which the private apartments were reached. In the seventeenth century classical ideas came more and more to pervade English architecture. Houses grew stiffer and more symmetrical in design ; and much attention was paid to the enrichment of the interior by means of highly-wrought wood or plaster. Chambers were panelled, staircases became elaborate, and mullioned windows were replaced by sash windows. In the eighteenth century Gothic were discarded for classical traditions ; and the mansions of the noble and wealthy were designed less for comfort than for dignity. The smaller houses, however, especially in the country, remained simple and unpretentious. They were generally constructed of the material which lay nearest at hand, and, in a well-wooded district like Herefordshire, they were frequently made of timber, the wooden framework being filled in with lath and plaster. The domestic architecture, however, of the county is not confined to timber-framed houses, but is of great variety and interest. Most styles and periods are represented, though many of the earlier buildings have undergone subsequent alteration, and have received later additions. It is possible here to mention only a few of the most noteworthy ancient houses in the county. Brinsop Court is a moated manor house belonging in part to the fourteenth century ;

Treago comes down from the same period; and Gillow Manor retains an entrance tower of the same date. The Staick House at Eardisland (also fourteenth century) is a good example of domestic architecture, pure and simple. Old Brockhampton, near Bromyard, is a characteristic instance of a fourteenth-century half-timbered hall. A rather later building is Hergest Court (fifteenth century). Hampton Court—a mansion of much dignity and one of the finest in Herefordshire—also goes back in origin to the fifteenth century. At Byford there is a picturesque example of a sixteenth-century residence of modest dimensions and local type. Seventeenth-century buildings are numerous. Holm Lacy is an imposing mansion in the Palladian style; but the fashion of the time expressed itself most freely in Herefordshire in the sumptuousness of its timber work. The Ley (at Weobley), Orleton Court, and the Biddulph mansion at Ledbury are all striking illustrations of what could be achieved with this material. There is a fine specimen, too, of the timbered architecture of the period in what is now a bank at Hereford. Monnington Court is a building of a different class but of the same date. Beneithen Court is Jacobean, and its neighbour Langstone Court is traditionally associated with the name of Inigo Jones. Other notable mansions in the county are Croft Castle, Hellens, Homme House, Kentchurch Court, and Knill Court. Of the humbler class of half-timbered dwellings Eardisland, Ledbury, Pembridge, and Weobley furnish numerous and very picturesque examples; these localities,

but not these only, abound in "black and white" cottages. There are interesting *market halls* at Ledbury, Pembridge, and Ross; and *dovecots* of various designs and dates exist at Ashton, Bodenham, King's Pyon, Much Cowarne, Eardisland, Garway, Hellens (Much Marcle), Moor farm (near Hereford), Luntley Court (near Dilwyn), and Richard's Castle. These dovecots are a special feature of Herefordshire.

XII. Herefordshire Place-Names[1]

The names of places have been styled fossilized history, since they reflect the successive changes of occupation which a country or region has undergone in the past, and so are memorials of historical movements and of racial or national struggles. Most English counties, by the diverse origin of the place-names within them, illustrate the fact that Celts, Romans, and Saxons at different periods possessed this island; whilst the presence of Scandinavian and Danish names in particular districts shows that a people from the north of Europe also invaded it. Herefordshire, however, as a western border county is especially interesting in connexion with the conflict between the Celts and the Saxons; and the distribution within it of names of Celtic and of Saxon origin confirms what is known from other sources about the line of division between the two peoples.

[1] This section was originally written before the publication of Canon Bannister's *The Place-Names of Herefordshire*, but in the final revision of it some additions have been made to it from that useful work.

Since a Celtic population remained after the departure of the Romans, as well as preceded their arrival, no serious chronological error will be committed by taking account, first of all, of the places that recall by their names the Roman occupation. These are chiefly localities on the two or three Roman roads that cross the county in various directions, and owe their designation to the circumstance that they were built by the side of paved trackways (*strata viarum*). The chief are *Stretford*, *Stretton Sugwas*, and *Stretton Grandison*. A locality which derives its name from its nearness not to a road but to a camp (*castra*) is *Kenchester*. Derivatives from *castra*, however, are rare in the county: more common are those which trace their origin to *vallum*, such as *Wall Hills* (near Ledbury and Thornbury), *Sutton Walls* (near Sutton St. Nicholas), and perhaps *Coxwall Knoll* (near Brampton Bryan). The Latin *pontem* appears in *Pontrilas*, which is otherwise a Celtic name. But place-names of Latin origin did not enter our language exclusively through the Roman military occupation of our island. The Church also introduced a few, and in *Leominster* Herefordshire has a derivative from the Latin *monasterium*. Possibly, too, the first syllable of *Kilpeck*, which, occurring as it does in various Welsh and Irish place-names (like *Kilgerran*, *Kilcennin*, *Kildare*), is mediately Goidelic,[1] may be ultimately Latin, and may come from *cella*.

The Celtic names in Herefordshire are found

[1] For this term see p. 24.

almost exclusively in one portion of the county. It has already been pointed out (p. 28) that the chief boundary between Welshmen and Saxons here was the Wye. It is in agreement with this that the places bearing names of Welsh origin are principally on the right bank of the river. Examples are furnished by *Pencoyd*, *Tretire*, *Kilpeck* (already mentioned), and several localities with the prefix *Llan*, such as *Llangarren*, *Llandinabo*, *Llanwarne*, *Llanrothal*. Of the prefixes contained in these names *pen* means "head" (*Pencoyd* signifies the head of the wood), *tre* (or *tref*), "a dwelling," *kil* (or *cil*), a "hermit's cell," and *llan*, "a clearing" or "enclosure," and then a sacred enclosure, a church. The *ken* of *Kenchester* looks like the Goidelic[1] form of *pen*, the latter belonging to the Brythonic[1] dialect. *Ross* on the left bank of the Wye is perhaps the Welsh *rhos* (moor): it will be remembered that there is also a Ross in the north of Scotland. In general, the surviving Celtic place-names in this country designate the physical features of a district, such as streams, mountains, rocks, and woods; and an illustration of the fact is afforded by the circumstance that some of the rivers that flow through or past Herefordshire bear Welsh appellations meaning "water," *e.g.* the Wye (*Gwy*), and the Dore (*Dwr* or *Dwfr*). Another Celtic synonym for water—*las*—appears in *Pontrilas* and *Dulas*, the latter a little affluent of the Dore. The Lugg probably preserves the name of a Celtic heathen deity, the same that exists in Lyons (anciently *Lugdunum*).

[1] For these terms see p. 24.

Dinmore, the name of the hill that closes the plain of Hereford on the north, is also Welsh. The memory of a Celtic saint, David (the Welsh *Dewi*) is perpetuated in the place-names *Dewchurch* and *Dewsall*, whilst another saint, Dyfrig or Dubricius, has perhaps given his name to *St. Devereux*.

But though the Welsh names in Herefordshire are numerous enough to attract notice, the bulk of the place-names in the county are Anglo-Saxon. The element *ing*, which figures in several, is a Saxon patronymic, meaning "descendant" of so and so; but it is clear from the early forms of many names containing this suffix that the final *g* is often excrescent, *Collington*, for instance, standing for *Collantun*, *i.e.* "Colla's ton," not "the ton of the (clan of the) Collings". The *ton* (earlier *tun*), which appears in this and similar names (*e.g.* *Donnington*, *Coddington*) originally meant a homestead, and then an enclosed village, developing later into a *town*. Other suffixes having a significance similar to that of *-ton* are *-bury*, *-ham*, *-stow* (equivalent to *-stock* or *-stoke*, a stockaded place), *-wick*, and *-yard*; and local illustrations are afforded by *Ledbury*, *Bullingham*, *Bridstow*, *Ullingswick*, and *Bromyard*. In *Brockhampton* and *Moorhampton* there is some tautology. The first element in many of the names in which these suffixes appear represents a personal appellation: thus *Brampton* is Brand's tun, *Bodenham* is Boda's ham, *Bosbury* is Bosa's burh (or fortified settlement), *Marstow* is St. Martin's stow. The numerous rivers of the county have naturally occasioned the spots where they could be crossed to be denoted by names containing the

suffixes *-ford* and *-bridge*, which are both of Anglo-Saxon origin. In Herefordshire the first of these occurs much oftener than the second: instances are supplied by *Walford*, *Byford*, *Stretford*, *Pembridge*. Endings like these bear their meaning on the surface; and the same might be expected to be uniformly true of the ending *-land*. But Canon Bannister states that the earliest form of *Eardisland* is Earleslene, the suffix *lene* signifying low-lying ground. Similarly *Kingsland* and *Monkland* are corruptions of Kingslene and Monklene. All of these places are in the plain drained by the Arrow. A suffix common in Herefordshire, though occurring in other parts of the country also, is *ley*. This means an open forest glade, and recalls the fact that a large part of the county was once covered with timber: it occurs in *Almeley*, *Eardisley*, *Kinnersley*, etc. Another termination illustrating the same feature is *-field*, which is found in *Hatfield* and *Sarnesfield*. As the purpose of a name is to distinguish, the circumstance that much of the surface of the county was formerly covered with trees made it natural to designate places where there was a clearing by names that drew attention to their open character. Another noteworthy local term is *hope*, signifying a closed (or blind) valley: it appears in *Fownhope*, *Woolhope*, and *Soller's Hope*. Of this the *op* of *Brinsop*, *Cusop*, and *Orcop* is probably a corruption. A suffix of rather obscure origin and meaning is *wardine*, as in *Bredwardine*, *Leintwardine*, and *Lugwardine*. It is usually connected with the *-worth* and *-worthy* common in other counties, *Bredwardine*, for instance, being spelt Bredworthin

in a document dating from 1227. The suffix *-low*, seen in *Docklow* and *Wolferlow*, means a hill or tump. The *or* of *Bicknor*, *Bradnor*, and *Eastnor* signifies "bank"; and is applied not only to the side of a river, but to the side of a hill. The *tree* that ends a name, unlike the *tre* that begins one, is English, not Celtic, and means tree: *Bartestree*, for example, is Berthold's tree. Some localities derive their names from the church round which the village grew, like *Peterchurch* and *Michaelchurch*. One or two places probably preserve the memory of Saxon rulers: *Credenhill*, for instance, may be called after the Mercian king Creda; whilst *Wolferlow* may perpetuate the name of Wulfere, the son of another Mercian king, Penda.

Place-names in Herefordshire which are of Norman origin are few, the most obvious being *Foy* and *Belmont*. But some additional Norman family appellations figure in the double-barrelled names which are fairly numerous in the county. These generally denote by one of their elements the owner of the manor. Some of the localities in question belonged to the crown (*King's Pyon*), some to ecclesiastical officials or corporations (*Bishop's Frome*, *Brampton Abbots*, *Canon Pyon*), and some to private families (*Acton Beauchamp*, *Holm Lacy*, *Moreton Jeffreys*, *Weston Beggard*). But a few are distinguished merely by adjectives denoting their greater or less importance; and in connexion with this may be remarked the curious use of the word *much*, where in other districts *great* is employed. Instances are *Much Birch*, *Much Dewchurch*, *Much Marcle*, in

contrast to *Little Birch*, *Little Dewchurch*, and *Little Marcle*.

XIII. Biography

Abel, John, b. 1577, possibly at Sarnesfield (where he is buried) ; architect ; designed the Market Houses at Hereford (now destroyed), Leominster, Kington, and Weobley ; known as the "King's Carpenter," and said to have been of great service in the defence of Hereford in 1645 by constructing corn-mills for the besieged citizens ; d. 1674.

Adam of Easton, b. early in the fourteenth century, possibly at Easton, near Little Hereford (though, according to some, at Easton near Norwich) ; studied at Oxford ; took the Benedictine habit ; created a cardinal, 1381 ; imprisoned and degraded for being concerned in a design to limit the despotic rule of Pope Urban VI., 1385 ; restored to his honours by Boniface IX. ; d. at Rome, 1397.

Adam of Orleton, b. about 1285 ; Bishop of Hereford, 1317 ; supported Roger Mortimer against Edward II. (1321), and was deprived of his lands on a charge of treason (1322) ; joined the party of Queen Isabella against the King (1326), and was largely responsible for the King's resignation ; after the death of Edward II. was made treasurer by Edward III., and became successively Bishop of Worcester (1327) and Winchester (1333) ; d. 1345.

Beale, John, b. 1603 ; took Orders ; wrote on Herefordshire orchards ; d. about 1682.

Clifford, Rosamond, b. about 1140, daughter of Walter de Clifford ; became the mistress of Henry

II. ; said to have been poisoned by the queen at Woodstock ; more probably died at Godstow (where she was buried), 1176. It is represented that she had two sons by Henry—Geoffrey, who was made Bishop of Lincoln, and William, who became Earl of Salisbury, but the statement has only late authority, and is probably untrue.

Coningsby, Sir Thomas, b. about 1555, at Hampton Court ; soldier ; served in France and was knighted in 1591 ; M.P. for Hereford city (1593 and 1601), and founded there the hospital that bears his name ; d. 1625.

Cornewall, James, b. 1699 at Bredwardine ; entered the Navy and became captain in 1724 ; served on various stations ; commanded the *Marlborough* in the action off Toulon in 1744, and fell in the engagement.

Croft, Sir James, date of birth unknown ; represented the county (1564, 1570, and 1585) ; knighted in 1547 ; Lord Deputy in Ireland, 1551 ; implicated in Wyatt's rebellion in the reign of Mary, but restored to his position by Elizabeth ; privy councillor (1570) ; sat on the commission that tried Mary, Queen of Scots (1586) ; suspected of treason ; d. 1591.

Davies, John, b. about 1565 at Hereford ; minor poet ; published *Microcosmos* and other works ; d. 1618.

Devereux, Robert, b. 1567 (it is supposed) at Netherwood, near Bromyard ; served in the Netherlands and knighted (1586) ; became a favourite of Queen Elizabeth ; made K.G. (1588) ; appointed Earl Marshal (1597) ; Governor General of Ireland

(1599); attempted to cause a rising of the citizens of London, tried, condemned of treason, and executed, 1601.

Garrick, David, b. 1717 at Hereford; entered at Lincoln's Inn, but abandoned the law for the stage, 1746; became manager of Drury Lane Theatre, 1747; d. 1779. Of him early in his career Pope declared, "This young man never had his equal as an actor, and never will". He produced numerous poetical works (including sixteen plays).

Grandison, John, b. about 1292, at Ashperton; took Orders; Archdeacon of Nottingham; legate of Pope John XXII. (1327); appointed Bishop of Exeter (1327); did much to beautify the cathedral there; d. 1369.

Gwillim, John, b. about 1551, possibly though not certainly in Herefordshire; studied heraldry and published *A Display of Heraldry*; d. 1621.

Gwyn, Eleanor, b. 1650 at Hereford; lived principally in London, at first in poor circumstances, but eventually, through her beauty, was enabled to go on the stage (1665), where she attracted the notice of Charles II., whose mistress she became; fell into poverty at his death, but was relieved by a generous allowance from his brother and successor; d. 1687. Her eldest son was created Duke of St. Albans.

Hakluyt, Richard, b. about 1552; was educated at Oxford, where, after graduating, he lectured on geography; took Orders and became Chaplain to the English Ambassador at Paris; Prebendary of Bristol (1586); Archdeacon of Westminster (1603); wrote (among other works) *The Principall*

Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques and Discoveries of the English Nation; d. 1616.

Harley, Sir Edward, b. 1624 at Brampton; M.P. for Herefordshire, 1646; took part in the Civil War on the side of the Parliament, but opposed the execution of the King; on the death of Cromwell promoted the Restoration and was made Governor of Dunkirk by Charles II. (1661); refused to take the Oath of Allegiance to James II.; again represented the county under William III.; d. 1700.

Harley, Sir Robert, b. 1579 at Wigmore; educated at Oxford; M.P. for Radnor and Hereford; Master of the Mint under Charles I., though holding Republican views; was removed from his office by the Parliament and imprisoned for voting to treat with the King (1648-9); d. at Brampton, 1656.

James, Henry, Lord James of Hereford, b. 1828 at Hereford; lawyer and statesman; M.P. for Taunton, 1869; Liberal in Politics; successively Solicitor General and Attorney General, 1873; M.P. for Bury, 1885; became a Liberal Unionist, 1886; raised to the peerage, 1895; G.C.V.O., 1902; d. 1911.

Kemble, George Stephen, b. 1758, at Kington; trained for medicine, but adopted the stage as a profession; became manager of the Edinburgh Theatre (1792-1810); played at Covent Garden (1806) and Drury Lane (1816); d. 1822.

Knight, Richard Payne, b. 1750 at Wormsley; M.P. for Leominster (1780) and Ludlow (1784-1806); acquired distinction as a scholar and antiquary; wrote on ancient art, and bequeathed to

the British Museum a valuable collection of antiquities ; d. 1824.

Knight, Thomas Andrew, b. 1788 at Wormsley ; educated at Oxford ; studied horticulture, and did much by his writings on the cultivation of apples and pears to improve the orchards of Herefordshire ; d. 1838.

Lingen, Sir Henry, b. 1612 ; took an active part as a Royalist in the Civil War (1643-48) ; knighted, 1645 ; defended Goodrich Castle in 1646, but was forced to surrender after a siege of six weeks ; took the oath not to bear arms against the Parliament, but having in 1648 planned a Royalist rising, was imprisoned for a short time ; represented Hereford at the Restoration ; d. 1662.

Mapes, Walter, b. about 1140, probably but not certainly in the county ; studied at Paris ; clerk of the royal household under Henry II., and employed by the King on various missions ; became Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, Lincoln, and Hereford, and Archdeacon of Oxford ; wrote various poems in French and Latin ; d. sometime subsequent to 1208.

Nicholas of Hereford, flourished about 1390 ; educated at Oxford ; adopted the views of the Lollards, whose leader he became after the death of Wycliffe ; later, recanted his opinions and was appointed Chancellor and Treasurer of Hereford (1397-1417) ; eventually became a Carthusian monk ; date of his death not recorded. He translated a large part of the Old Testament for Wycliffe.

Oldcastle, Sir John, b. 1360, possibly at Almeley ; received the title of Lord Cobham through his

second wife (the widow of John, Lord Cobham); served in France and enjoyed the friendship of Prince Henry (afterward Henry V.); sympathized with the Lollards, and was charged with heresy; was condemned (1413), but from the Tower he made his escape into Wales; outlawed in 1414, and recaptured in 1417; condemned, hung, and burnt, 1417. He is supposed to have been the original of Shakespeare's Falstaff.

Prichard, James Cowles, b. 1786 at Ross; educated at both Cambridge and Oxford; studied medicine; appointed Commissioner in Lunacy, 1845; wrote various works on ethnology, and a treatise on mental diseases; d. 1848.

Roger of Hereford, b. in the twelfth century; wrote on mathematics and astrology.

Ross, John, b. 1719 at Ross; educated at Cambridge; fellow of St. John's College; took Orders and became preacher at the Rolls (1757); Canon of Durham (1769); appointed Bishop of Exeter in 1778; edited Cicero's *Epistolæ Familiares;* d. 1792.

Scudamore, John, Viscount, b. 1601 at Homme; educated at Oxford; M.P. for Herefordshire, 1620 and 1624, and for Hereford, 1625 and 1628; created baronet (1620), baron, and viscount (1628); appointed ambassador at the French Court (1635); in the Civil War supported the Royalist cause; surrendered Hereford (1643); suffered the sequestration of his estates and imprisoned till 1647; d. 1671, and was buried at Holm Lacy.

Smith, Miles, b. about 1550 at Hereford; educated at Oxford; became Canon of Hereford; chosen, on account of his Oriental scholarship, to

take part in the Authorized translation of the Bible ; appointed Bishop of Gloucester, 1612 ; d. 1624.

Vaughan, Roger William Bede, b. 1834 at Courtfield, near Ross ; educated at Downside and Rome ; took Orders in the Roman Church ; Prior of St. Michael's, Belmont (1862) ; appointed coadjutor to the Archbishop of Sydney (1873) ; Archbishop of Sydney (1877) ; wrote a life of St. Thomas Aquinas ; d. 1883.

Whittington, Richard, b. in the fourteenth century, of a family that owned the manors of Pauntley (near Newent), and Hope Sollers ; made his fortune in London ; became a member of the Mercers' Company ; Sheriff (1394); thrice Lord Mayor of London (between 1397 and 1419) ; advanced loans to Richard II., Henry IV., and Henry V., and gave generous benefactions to London ; d. 1423.

Persons Connected with, but not Natives of, Herefordshire.

Birch, Colonel John, b. 1616 ; in early life a Bristol merchant, but in the Civil War levied a regiment, and as a Colonel was present in several engagements ; captured Hereford and Goodrich castles ; M.P. for Leominster ; opposed the extreme Roundheads, and was imprisoned (1654) ; took part in the Restoration, and was made a member of the Council of State ; M.P. for Leominster (for the second time), Penrhyn (1671-8), and Weobley (1678-91) ; d. 1691.

Blount, Thomas, b. 1618, at Bordesley, Worcestershire, but sprung from Herefordshire stock (his father being Myles Blount of Orleton); wrote numerous works, two of them being *Boscobel* (an account of Charles II.'s escape after the battle of Worcester) and *Fragmenta antiquitatis* (dealing with Ancient Tenures); d. 1679.

Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, b. 1806; poetess; resided at Hope End, near Colwall; married Robert Browning; chief work *Aurora Leigh;* d. 1861, at Florence.

Cox, David, b. 1783 at Birmingham; painter; resided at Hereford (1813-26); afterwards at London (till 1841) and Birmingham; d. 1859.

Cox, David (the younger), b. 1809 at Dulwich; water-colour painter; educated at Hereford; d. 1885.

Croft, Herbert, b. 1603; educated at Oxford; joined the Roman Church, but later rejoined the Anglican Church; became successively Prebendary of Salisbury (1639) and Worcester (1640); appointed Dean of Hereford (1644), but was ejected by the Parliamentarians; after the Restoration was made Bishop of Hereford (1661); d. 1691.

Duncumb, John, b. 1765 in Surrey; took Orders and received the livings of Abbey Dore and Mansel Lacy; began (1790) a *History of Herefordshire*, which was left uncompleted; wrote also *A General View of the Agriculture of Hereford;* d. 1839.

Hampden, Renn Dickson, b. 1793; educated at Oxford, where he became fellow of Oriel College; Bampton Lecturer (1832); Principal of St. Mary

Hall (1833); Professor of Moral Philosophy (1834) Regius Professor of Divinity (1836); made Bishop of Hereford (1848), his appointment evoking much ecclesiastical criticism on the ground of his theological views; d. 1868.

Harley, Robert, Earl of Oxford, b. 1661, son of Sir Edward Harley of Brampton Bryan; M.P. for Radnor (1690-1711); Speaker of the House of Commons (1701); Chancellor of the Exchequer (1710); his life attempted (1711); created Earl of Oxford and K.G. (1712); impeached for High Treason (1717) on the charge of supporting the Pretender; committed to the Tower, but the impeachment was eventually dropped; d. 1724.

Kyrle, John, b. 1637 at Dymock (Gloucestershire); educated at Oxford; student of the Middle Temple; resided at Ross and devoted himself to works of charity; d. 1724. His benefactions attracted the attention of Pope, who immortalized his memory as the "Man of Ross".

Lewis, Sir George Cornewall, Bart., b. 1806; educated at Oxford; M.P. for Herefordshire (1847); editor of the *Edinburgh Review* (1852-5); M.P. for Radnor (1855-63); Chancellor of the Exchequer (1855-8); Home Secretary (1859-61); Secretary for War (1861-3); wrote *Enquiry into the Credibility of Early Roman History*, *Treatise on Methods of Observation and Reasoning in Politics*, etc.; d. 1863.

Meyrick, Sir Samuel Rush, b. 1783; educated at Oxford; lawyer and antiquary; knighted (1832); High Sheriff of Herefordshire (1834); built Goodrich Court and accumulated there a valuable col-

lection of ancient armour ; wrote *A History of the County of Cardigan*, *A Critical Inquiry into Ancient Armour*, and other works ; d. 1848.

Ouseley, *Sir Frederick Arthur Gore*, b. 1825 in London ; musician ; professor of music at Oxford (1855) ; Canon of Hereford (1886) ; composed two oratorios and much church and secular music, as well as treatises on musical theory ; d. 1889.

Philips, *John*, b. 1676 at Bampton, Oxfordshire ; educated at Oxford ; poet ; wrote *The Splendid Shilling* (a mock-heroic poem), *Blenheim*, and *Cyder* (in imitation of Vergil's *Georgics*) ; d. 1708 and buried in Hereford Cathedral.

Siddons, *Sarah*, b. 1755 (*née* Kemble) ; actress ; married William Siddons ; played a great variety of parts ; d. 1831.

Stanhope, *James*, *Earl*, b. 1673 at Paris ; soldier and statesman ; served in Flanders (1694) ; M.P. for Newport (1701) and Cockermouth (1702 13) ; served under Marlborough (1703) and Peterborough (1705) ; captured Port Mahon (1708) ; taken prisoner and remained in captivity for two years ; on his release was made by George I. a Secretary of State ; became First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer (1717) ; created successively Viscount (1717) and Earl (1718) ; d. 1721.

DESCRIPTION OF PLACES IN HEREFORDSHIRE ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY.

NOTE.—The following abbreviations are employed in connexion with the various architectural styles:—

Norm. = Norman (latter part of the eleventh and early part of the twelfth century, or from William I. to Stephen).

Trans. = Transitional (the later years of the twelfth century, or the reign of Henry II.).

E. E = Early English (roughly, the thirteenth century, from Richard I. to Henry III.).

Dec. = Decorated (roughly, the fourteenth century, from Edward I. to Edward III.).

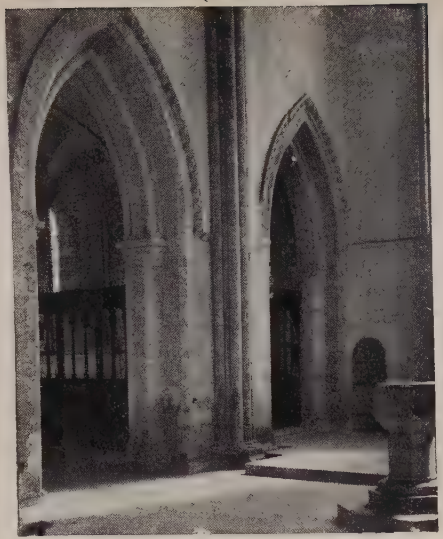
Perp. = Perpendicular (the end of the fourteenth, the whole of the fifteenth, and the early part of the sixteenth century, or from Richard II. to Henry VIII.).

Abbey Dore, a village on the Dore, at the S.E. extremity of the Golden Valley, with a station on the local line, 3 miles N.N.W. of Pontrilas. The Celtic name *Dore* (water) seems to have been confounded with the French *D'or*, and to have given rise to the designation of the district as the Golden Valley. Canon Bannister mentions that the title "Richard de aurea valle" occurs in a document of 1130. The Roman road from Kenchester (*Magna*) to Abergavenny (*Gobannium*) ran through Abbey Dore; and recently a portion of it has been uncovered in the station yard. The interest of the place, however, is chiefly ecclesiastical, for it was once the site of a wealthy Cistercian monastery

ABBEY DORE

Founded by Robert of Ewyas in 1147. Though the monastery itself has been destroyed, a large portion of the Abbey Church remains (thanks chiefly to the good offices of Lord Scudamore), and is now used as a parish church. It is dedicated to the Holy Trinity and St. Mary, and furnishes one of the finest examples of E.E. architecture in the county. The building is screened from the road by the trees of the adjoining vicarage and may easily be missed by an unobservant traveller. It consists now only of transepts, choir, and two fragmentary arches of the demolished nave. Some antiquaries believe that the fabric was never completed in its entirety. The existing portions are laid out on stately and impressive lines; and though the work is throughout of one period, it exhibits much variety of detail. In plan the church is cruciform, the tower occupying a rather odd position at the junction of the choir and S. transept. The absence of a nave, the peculiar situation of the tower, and the sloping roofs of the aisles (which are carried right round the E. end) give the building a rather huddled appearance. Within, however, this sense of congestion is absent, for the transepts are lofty and spacious, and the choir, if somewhat short, is of great dignity and beauty. The charm of the church is in the reserve which its general arrangement is intended to suggest. It is only when the observer passes from the light and airy choir to the cloisteral seclusion of the aisles that he discovers how much the building has to disclose. Entrance is gained through a well-modelled E.E. doorway, set in the S. wall of the

transept ; and, in passing, the tall twin lancets, with the vesica-shaped aperture between them, should be noticed. The transepts contain only a gallery, a Jacobean pulpit, and a rather commonplace font ; but the absence of any distracting feature enhances the impressiveness of the lofty arches which span the crossing. The choir is carried three bays eastwards, and measures 84 feet by 32 feet. It is lighted by a clerestory pierced by large lancets, and is supported on cylindrical columns without the intervention of a triforium. The vaulting shafts still exist, but the vault has disappeared, its place being taken by a plain wooden roof. The aisles, on the contrary, are still massively vaulted, and are carried round the back of the altar to form an ambulatory, which once gave access to a series of parallel chapels, the vault being here supported on a beautiful avenue of clustered columns. This retro-choir, with its cross lights and lurking shadows, is the most effective bit of architectural composition in the building, and is full of artistic suggestiveness. Another little surprise is the small chantry chapel, containing an altar tomb, which opens from the S. transept, southwards of the basement of the tower. The workmanship throughout the church is excellent, and the sculpture executed with considerable vigour, as may be seen from the spirited reliefs which once formed the bosses of the now fallen choir vault, and which lie amongst the heaps of broken masonry collected together in odd corners. The capitals of the columns are all variously carved ; some of them have square abaci



ABBEY DORE, THE SOUTH TRANSEPT

ABBEY DORE, THE AMBULATORY

and display Romanesque ornamentation. The choir retains its original stone altar—a slab of remarkable dimensions, said to have been rescued from a neighbouring dairy ; but all the mediæval woodwork has disappeared from the church, the place of the stalls being filled with some Jacobean pews. A handsome seventeenth-century screen, the work of John Abel, and exhibiting a motto, the royal arms, and the quarterings of the See of Hereford, and of Lord Scudamore, stretches across the choir entrance. There are two large, but mutilated, effigies of knights in chain armour, one in each of the choir aisles, which are supposed to represent Sir Robert de Ewyas and Sir Roger de Clifford ; and a curious little effigy of John Breton, Bishop of Hereford (d. 1275), marking a heart interment, is fixed against a column on the N. side of the sanctuary. The church has lost most of its early glass ; but the E. windows of the choir are filled with a seventeenth-century substitute, and some fragments of more ancient date remain in the S. choir aisle. The unlighted transept walls show traces of faded wall paintings. Note should be taken also of the richly framed ambry in the S. transept, of the piscinas in the S. chantry chapel and S. choir aisle, and of the tiles at the foot of the font (which has an inscribed step). Externally, the chief features to be observed are the ornamental string course carried without interruption over the tops of the aisle windows, the two ruined arches of the nave springing from massive cylindrical columns, and a fragment of the chapter-house behind the N. transept.

Aconbury, a parish on the old Hereford and Ross road, 4 miles S.S.E. from the city. It was once possessed of an Augustinian nunnery, founded in the time of King John by Margaret, wife of Walter de Lacy. The convent has disappeared, and its lands are now the property of Guy's Hospital, but the conventual church still stands on the wooded slopes of Aconbury Hill. It is a building of fair size, without aisles or structural chancel, and carries a shingled spirelet. At the W. end is a good three-light window and an interesting wooden porch. The conventual buildings adjoined the church on the S., and the S. wall externally still retains some traces of the attachment of a cloister, from which access was obtained to the church by some doorways now blocked up. Over one of these is a squint, which perhaps communicated with a watching chamber. Within the church, under an arched recess, is an incised coffin lid, which bears a floriated cross and the name of Dame Maude Gorneye, wife of Sir Roger de Clifford. On the floor of the sanctuary are also some early slabs; one of these is engraved with a cross and the inscription *Ici git Johana Paunce*. Aconbury Court was once the possession of Lord Chandos. Aconbury Hill, which rises steeply behind the church to a height of 916 feet, is a very prominent object from the surrounding lowlands. It is thickly wooded, and its summit is encircled by a fine oval encampment.

Acton Beauchamp, a parish 3 miles S.S.E. of Bromyard. The church stands on the slope of a dingle in an obscure situation on a ridge overlooking the E. bank of the Frome, and is almost hidden

by foliage. It is a small aisleless structure with a W. tower, and a plain eighteenth-century nave, in which, however, is inserted a Norm. S. doorway with shafts and sculptured capitals. At *Redmarley* is an intermittent spring rising from a cavity called Hunger Hole, and known as "The Roaring Water".

Allensmore, a village 4½ miles S.W. of Hereford. The name comes from Alan de Plokenet, who was Lord of Kilpeck in the thirteenth century. The church, which is reached by a lane on the left of the Abergavenny road, is not of great interest, though it has a late Norm. doorway, and a large S. window exhibiting Dec. tracery of a rather unusual type. There is also a good E. window. Note (1) large Dec. piscina; (2) slab with floriated cross; (3) the ancient timbered roof; (4) in the E. window, mediæval painted glass (late fifteenth century) brought here from Hereford Cathedral. It includes a Crucifixion, and the figures of several saints.

Almeley (pronounced Amly, and meaning "Elm meadow"), a parish 5 miles S.E. of Kington, with a station. The church, with the exception of the tower (attributed to the Norm. period but rebuilt), belongs to the fourteenth century, and is an interesting example of Dec. work. At the eastern extremities of the lean-to aisles are gabled semi-transepts: the one on the S. has a piscina cut on the window-sill. In the chancel is a second piscina, and a foliated recess, either for an Easter sepulchre or for an effigy. The vestry was originally a chapel, and is remarkable for having had a priest's chamber built over it (note the window).

Some carved woodwork, formerly in a W. gallery, has been inserted in the front of the pews nearest the chancel; there are some panels in the roof, decorated with the Tudor rose, and constituting a kind of "rood ceiling"; and some ancient glass survives in one or two windows. S. of the church is a moated mound, with a square bailey, likewise protected by a moat. A castle once stood here, and according to Robinson, its ruins were visible in the middle of the seventeenth century. It is said to have existed as far back as John's reign. A second mound—*Batch Twt*—will be found a short distance away. It is thought to be of even earlier date than the first, and, like it, had a bailey defended by a fosse and ramparts. *Newport House* is said to occupy the site of a manor house belonging to Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, who was executed in 1417 (p.39).

Ashperton, a village 6 miles N.W. of Ledbury with a station a mile away. A castle is said to have once existed here, but no vestiges now remain. The parish church (dedicated to St. Bartholomew) is small and cruciform, and is reached by a lane leaving the main road near an inn. The transepts, which are very short, once served as chapels and retain their piscinas; and there is a third piscina in the usual position in the chancel: otherwise the building lacks interest. The exceptionally straight stretch of road running through Ashperton from Stretton Grandison towards Dymock and Gloucester (*Glevum*) has every appearance of being Roman. The name of the village is probably corrupted from Asbeorhts' tun.

Aston (*i.e.* "Ash-tun"), a parish 3½ miles S.W. of Ludlow, and about the same distance N.E. of Wigmore. The church (dedicated to St. Giles) was originally built in the twelfth century, and possesses a typical Norm. tympanum. In the chancel is a low-side window. Near the building is a moated mound. N.E. of the village is *High Vinnalls*, an eminence 1235 feet above sea level, which commands an extensive prospect.

Aston Ingham, a parish 5 miles E. of Ross, and about the same distance from Newent. The church has been rebuilt, but incorporates some remains of an earlier structure. There is a very massive stoup in the S. porch ; and the W. doorway and the chancel arch (the latter very plain in character) are both ancient. The most interesting features are (1) the leaden font, with the monograms *W. R.* (William Rex) and *W. M.* (William and Mary), and the date 1689 (this is said by Mr. Francis Bond to be the latest date at which lead fonts occur) ; (2) two slabs, with figures carved in relief, which are affixed to the E. wall of the chancel ; one is perhaps a priest, the other (much defaced) a woman. The tower has been constructed *within* the church, and blocks a window : the effect upon both the external and the internal appearance of the building is unfortunate. In the neighbourhood, at Combe Wood, a large hoard of fourth-century Roman coins has been found, the number amounting to about 2000. A pre-Roman bronze sword has also been unearthed.

Avenbury, a parish prettily situated in the valley of the Frome, 1 mile S. of Bromyard. The

church, which stands in a meadow, is a small aisleless E.E. building with a square W. tower surmounted by a pyramidal roof. There is a good E.E. arch to the S. entrance, protected by a rough wooden porch ; and in the S. external wall is an empty recess. Both the N. and S. walls contain an E.E. lancet window. Within the church is a small screen ; and a blocked up archway, retaining its responds, suggests that the church once possessed a N. chapel. Under the N. wall of the chancel is a slab bearing the incised figure of a knight with his hand upon the hilt of his sword. The font is probably of the same date as the church.

Aylton, a parish by the side of the main road between Leominster and Newent, 5 miles W. of Ledbury and 3 miles S. of Ashperton station. It has a diminutive and quaint church, preserving an oak screen, covered with varnish and very much out of centre. There is a Norm. slit in the N. wall of the nave, a small piscina, and an odd-shaped font. The chalice, covered with a flowered pattern, is worth inspection.

Aymestrey, a village on the Roman road from Leintwardine to Kenchester. An earlier form of the name was Alkmundstre. The church, which is dedicated to St. John Baptist and St. Alkmund, is noteworthy for possessing a fine screen as well as one or two other interesting features. The tower (ascribed to the fifteenth century) has a couple of curious gargoyles on its W. front, and the base of it, through which the building is entered, is vaulted. There is a good stoup within it. In the church

the two arcades of pointed arches are supported on square piers with semi-detached pilasters, of a rather unusual type. The chancel screen is among the best in the county ; and its ornamentation departs from the customary style. Parclose screens of a more ordinary character enclose what were originally chapels at the E. ends of the lean-to aisles. The chancel possesses a Norm. window, some herring-bone work in the external N. wall, a piscina, and a slab with incised effigies to the memory of Sir John Lingen and his wife Dorothy (sixteenth century). N. of the village, in Pyon Wood, is a camp enclosing 6 acres. The entrenchment is single, the position being protected by the natural fall of the hill. Its situation is not far from the Roman road mentioned above, which here goes by the name of "Watling Street" (see p. 26). *Mortimer's Cross* (p. 179) is in this parish.

Bacton, a parish with a station on the Golden Valley line, 4 miles N.W. from Pontrilas. The church (dedicated to St. Faith) is an aisleless building with a battlemented W. tower, and crowns the spur of a hill about 1 mile W. of the station. It preserves its original rood beam, and the stairway which communicated with the now demolished rood loft. Inside the S. doorway is an ambry. Though of no great interest in itself, the building has some notable possessions. On the N. wall of the nave opposite the entrance hangs some carefully protected tapestry, said to have been wrought by the hands of one of Queen Elizabeth's maids-of-honour. On the N. wall of the sanctuary is a mural monument to a lady, Blanche Parry, who

(it is stated) was governess to the great Queen, and was perhaps the worker of the tapestry. She is depicted as paying humble obeisance to her imperious mistress. On the S. wall near the doorway is a smaller figured tablet representing Alexander Stanter (1620), and his wife Rachel Hopton (1663). A card hung on the church wall gives a description of a fine silver-gilt chalice and paten belonging to the parish. The chalice has "toes," a circumstance which has led experts to assign its date to the last decade of the fifteenth century. *Newcourt Tump*, 1 mile to the N., is a small mound with an adjoining base-court of proportionate dimensions.

Ballingham, a parish near the Wye, 3 miles S.S.E. of Holm Lacy station. The church, dedicated to St. Dubricius, was restored in 1884-5. From the hills that rise above the river a fine view is obtainable.

Belmont, a district adjoining the south Hereford and Hay road, 2 miles S.W. from Hereford. It possesses a fine cruciform Roman Catholic church, the lofty tower of which is a very conspicuous object from the city. The building, which is attached to a Benedictine monastery, was erected at the expense of F. R. Wegg-Prosser of Belmont, from the designs of Pugin ; and was consecrated in 1860. It serves as a Cathedral of the Roman Catholic diocese of Newport and Menevia ; and is well worthy of a visit on account of its rich and impressive interior. Near the river is Belmont House, a freestone mansion built by Wyatt in 1788. In the grounds is a curious summer-house overlooking the Wye, which commands a

charming view of the stream as it flows toward Hereford.

Birch, Little, a parish between the old and new roads from Hereford to Ross, 6 miles S. of Hereford. The church, which stands on a ridge and is separated from its neighbour of the same name by a deep dell, can be approached by a lane from either road. It was rebuilt in 1869, and its most interesting possession is a chalice and paten of 1576.

Birch, Much, a village on the main Hereford and Ross road, 6 miles S. of the city. The church, which has a double dedication—St. Mary and St. Thomas à Becket—is a modern Gothic building with a square tower, erected in 1837. Aconbury Hill (p. 86) is partly in the parish.

Birley, a parish 5 miles S.W. of Leominster, and ½ a mile E. of the Roman Road (Watling Street), running from Wroxeter to Caerleon (see p. 26). The church (restored 1874) has a massive E.E. tower, crowned by a wooden belfry, and is entered through a Norm. doorway. The chancel arch is enriched with ball-flower ornamentation ; there is a large S. chapel, with a black-and-white timbered gable ; and there is an oak pulpit dated 1633. The chapel alluded to, which is lit by three large windows, each of four lights, retains its piscina. A mound not far from the church is thought to be a Norm. *motte*.

Bishop's Frome, a village on the Frome, 4½ miles S. of Bromyard, on the Ledbury road. The neighbourhood around abounds in hop gardens. The church, which stands by the roadside, has been much altered, but preserves sufficient of its original

features to make it worth inspection. It contains a good Norm. S. doorway, with shafts and zigzag moulding, and a chancel arch in the same style, filled with a somewhat fragmentary screen. The N. aisle, with its over-elaborated Norm. arcade, was erected fifty years ago. In a Dec. recess on the S. side of the church is an effigy, cross-legged, of a knight in chain armour, said to be one of the Devereux family. Near it is a piscina, and a pretty little trefoiled lancet. The battlemented W. tower, though later in style than the rest of the church, is part of the ancient fabric; but the chancel is modern (1847), whilst the nave was rebuilt in 1861.

Bishopstone, a parish 2 miles W. of Credenhill station. The locality was occupied by the Romans, for a pavement (now in the Hereford Museum) has been found here, pointing to the existence of a Roman villa, and there was a Roman road from it to Kenchester. Visitors who wish to see the church must enquire for it, since it lies apart from the village. It is cruciform in plan, with an unusually short chancel, and seems, in the main, to be E.E. It contains two effigies, representing John Barrington (d. 1613) and his wife. The roof is perhaps the best feature in the building. Note (amongst other things) the piscina (gilded), some quaint carving in the stalls, the Jacobean pulpit, and (externally) an early window (now blocked) in the S. wall. Bishopstone Court used to be the residence of the Barrington family, a member of which, Anne Barrington, founded here some almshouses in 1723.

Blakemere, a village on the south Hereford and Hay road, 10 miles W. from Hereford: Peterchurch station is 7 miles, and Moorhampton station 5 miles away. The place exhibits one or two picturesque black-and-white cottages, and possesses a small aisleless church, which, rebuilt in 1877, preserves a Norm. arch and a brass of 1760. In the churchyard is the base of the old cross.

Bodenham, a village 7 miles N. of Hereford; nearest station, Dinmore, 2 miles. The church (St. Michael and All Angels), with its massive tower surmounted by a small spire, is rather impressive externally, and is not uninteresting when the interior is examined. The oldest parts date from the end of the thirteenth century, when the aisles had low-pitched roofs terminating in gables. About 1400 the nave roof was raised, and the aisles transformed into their present shape. At the E. end of the aisles were chantry chapels, as may be inferred from the still existing piscinas: one will be seen on a pier, the other is in the present vestry. In the N. wall of the chancel is the effigy of a woman with her left arm on her breast, and her right shielding a child. The Dec. hexagonal font (cp. *Marden*) dates from the thirteenth century. In the village is a headless cross, with a well adjoining. An octagon pigeon-house deserves notice.

Bolstone, a parish 2 miles S. of Holm Lacy station. The church, which originally belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, was almost entirely rebuilt in 1877, but it retains three deeply splayed E.E. lights at the E. end, and a fourth in the S. wall of the nave. There is a blocked round-headed

door on the N., the drip-stone ending in dragons' heads. The name of the place seems to be a corruption: in the thirteenth century it was called Balchampton.

Bosbury, an interesting village, 4 miles N.N.W. of Ledbury. The principal, though not the sole, object of interest in it is its church. The tower is detached, as at Ledbury (see p. 55), and dates from the thirteenth century. In plan it is square (each side being 29 feet long); is divided into three stages; and is lit by lancet windows. These detached belfries (or "berfreys") were probably designed for defence, being places where shelter could be found against raiders; and this purpose is more readily suggested by the Bosbury example than by most. The body of the church consists of a nave separated from lean-to aisles by a Trans. arcade of six pointed arches. The building is lighted by small lancets, except at the E.; there is a Norm. S. door; and a large S. chantry chapel dating from the sixteenth century. This chapel was endowed by Sir R. Morton in memory of his wife (who died in 1528), and has a vaulted roof and Perp. windows. There are two quaint monuments with effigies of members of the Hanford family, dating from 1573 and 1578, and two ancient fonts: of the latter, one, assigned to the thirteenth century, stands on five pillars; the other, much older, and thought by some to be Saxon, is merely a bowl, and has lost its pedestal. The panelled pulpit merits notice. The churchyard cross, which retains its head, is said to have been spared from destruction by Puritan iconoclasts

on condition that there should be inscribed on it the words, *Honour God in Christ, not the cross*, which are still to be read. In the churchyard is the grave of "Edna Lyall" (Ada Ellen Bayly).

Besides the quaint gabled houses in the village street there are some other survivals of antiquity. Bosbury, indeed, seems to have had an attraction for more than one type of churchman. The bishops of Hereford, prior to Elizabeth's time, had a palace here; and at *Old Court*, now a farm, a gateway belonging to it still remains, whilst a cider cellar represents the old refectory. The Knights Templars, too, had a Preceptory of their Order here: the site is now occupied by a farm still styled *Temple Court*. At a tavern called "Ye Olde Crown Inn" is an oak-panelled room, dated 1571: the place was formerly a mansion of the Hanford family.

Brampton Abbots, a parish 1½ miles N. of Ross (from which the distance can be reduced if a path across some fields be followed). The manor was bestowed by William I. on the abbots of Gloucester—hence the second part of the name. The church (St. Michael) was originally a Norm. structure, dating from about 1100: and there still survive various parts exhibiting Norm. characteristics. These are (1) the S. door (with plain tympanum); (2) the piers of the chancel arch (the arch itself being a couple of centuries later); (3) the piscina in the chancel (supported on a modern shaft); (4) the E. window. On the N. wall there is a small brass with a figure of Joan Rudhall, and a petition for the prayers of the faithful on behalf

of herself and her husband, John Rudhall (whose figure is unfortunately lost). The brass is dated 1506, and was originally set in the large stone which will be observed on the floor of the chancel. The rood-loft stairs still remain ; and near them is a recess of problematical significance. The font dates from the fifteenth century. The churchyard (which has the niched base of a cross) commands a charming view, embracing May, Penyard, and Coppet Hills, with the towers of Ross and Weston churches.

Brampton Bryan, a village in the extreme N.W. corner of the county ; nearest station Bucknell (on the L. & N.W.R. Central Wales line), 1½ miles. The place lies in the valley of the Teme, and possesses the ruins of a castle. The surrounding lands were bestowed at the Conquest upon Ralph de Mortimer ; but passed, probably in the reign of Henry I., to the family of Brampton, and thence to that of Harley by the marriage (*temp.* Edward I.) of Sir Robert Harley with Margaret, daughter of Brian de Brampton. The existing castle was most likely built by Brian de Harley (who was knighted in the reign of Edward III.), and this conclusion is confirmed by the character of the architecture (Dec.) ; but it is thought to have been erected on the site of an earlier fortification of the *motte* and bailey type. Unfortunately it stands in private grounds, and so is not very accessible to the ordinary visitor. The gateway is flanked by two towers, and the passage was defended by double gates : note the ball-flower ornament on the stringcourse. In the W. tower there is a

small window with a little Dec. tracery. The entrance passage leads into an open court: on the opposite side, on the left, was the Hall. The bay window, which projects into the court, was added in Henry VIII.'s time. The castle remained in the possession of the Harleys until the Civil War, when, after a defence for the Parliament by Lady Harley, it was captured by the Royalist forces. Close to the castle is the parish church (St. Barnabas), which was rebuilt after the Civil War. Its only feature of interest is the effigy of a lady holding a heart: the figure, which is in a recess in the S. wall, is thought to represent the Margaret Harley mentioned above. *Coxall* (or *Coxwall*) *Knoll*, situated to the north of Brampton, is a camp occupying a position 300 or 400 feet high; it is half in Herefordshire and half in Shropshire, being cut by the boundary between the two counties, and consists of two enclosures. It is among the sites which are claimed to have been the scene of the last stand of Caratacus against the Romans, described by Tacitus (*Ann.*, xii. 33); but the identification is conjectural (cp. p. 25).

Bredenbury (*i.e.* "Beorhtwine's burh"), a parish 3 miles W.N.W. from Bromyard. The church is modern, replacing an older building, the only remains of which is the font, which keeps company with another from Wacton church, outside the W. end.

Bredwardine, a village on the S. road from Hereford to Hay, 12 miles W.N.W. from the former and 7 miles E.N.E. from the latter. The most convenient station is either Eardisley or Kin-

nersley, 3 miles. The place, which once gave its name to an Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Bredwardine (fourteenth century), has a number of attractions. Its situation, on the banks of the Wye and under the shadow of a tree-clad hill, is delightful ; and from the quaint brick bridge which spans the river a charming view may be obtained of tufted woods and gliding waters. Commanding the right bank of the stream below the bridge are the earthworks of a demolished castle. The only Herefordshire cromlech (*Arthur's Stone*) stands on the summit of Merbach Hill, the ridge above the village, and may be reached from here as well as from Dorstone (p. 128). The church (St. Andrew), a long and curious structure, is of no little interest. It has a battlemented tower on its N. side ; and the nave, which is without aisles, shows a marked eccentricity in its alignment. The W. end is Norm. ; but the fourteenth century workmen who extended the church carried the nave eastwards with a very obvious disregard for the direction of the original axis, and the consequence is a considerable curvature towards the N. The earlier is the most interesting part of the church. It exhibits some herring-bone masonry in the N. wall, several deeply splayed Norm. windows, a fine Norm. doorway on the S., and the sculptured lintel of a second doorway of the same period on the N. These doorways are not opposite to one another (in this departing from the usual arrangement). Within the building is a large and roughly fashioned font, supported on four legs and a central shaft The later portion of the building contains

a good Dec. window on the S. ; but its most remarkable features are the two effigies in the sanctuary. One, on the N. side of the altar, is the mutilated figure of an unknown knight in chain armour with camail and jupon (fourteenth century) ; whilst the other, on the S., is the finely chiselled alabaster figure of Sir Roger Vaughan of Bredwardine, who is represented in plate armour. He was the son-in-law of Sir David Gam, and, like the latter, is reported to have fallen at Agincourt in 1415. He disputes with Gam the honour of being regarded as the original of Shakespeare's Fluellen. He is portrayed as wearing the *SS* collar, the badge of the house of Lancaster. (It has been suggested that these letters stand for the initial and final of *Seneschallus*, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, being Steward of England.) The earthworks of the demolished castle, which stood on a little spur of land overhanging the river, are to the S.E. of the churchyard ; of the masonry only a few traces of the foundations remain. The manor was given at the Conquest to John de Bredwardine, but in the thirteenth century it became the property of the Baskervilles, and, after them, of the Vaughans.

Breinton, a parish 2 miles W. of Hereford. The church (St. Michael), which is near the Wye, is, in itself, of no antiquarian interest, but it contains a fine Elizabethan or Jacobean Communion table (now placed in the N. aisle). Close to the church is a small camp, perhaps designed to guard a ford. The existing earthwork may have been the citadel of a larger fortification ; but the ground has been levelled, and conclusions are consequently

precarious. The place may be reached along the banks of the river (a charming walk) as well as by road.

Bridge Sollers, a parish adjoining the Wye, on the N. Hereford and Hay road, 6 miles from Hereford. The nearest station is Credenhill, 2½ miles. A castle is said to have once existed here, and to have been held by Hugh Mortimer against Henry II. The church, which overlooks the river from the left bank, externally resembles its neighbour at Byford. At the base of the tower is a modern life-size figure of St. Andrew, the patron saint. At the S. entrance there is a plain Norm. doorway, ornamented on the imposts with some quaint sculptures. Within is a Trans. arcade, an ambry, and a Jacobean reredos. The river is here crossed by an iron bridge. Offa's Dyke skirts the parish, and slight traces of it appear by the roadside between here and Byford.

Bridstow (*i.e.* Bridget-stow), a parish about 1 mile W. of Ross. The church (St. Bridget), which may be gained from the town by a field-path past Wilton Castle, is of eleventh century origin, but was rebuilt in 1862 : it retains its ancient tower, a Norm. chancel arch, and, on the N. of the chancel, a small altar tomb, with escutcheons on the upper face (though the armorial bearings are erased), which is supposed to belong to one of the de Greys, of Wilton Castle, and to have been brought here from the castle chapel. Wilton (see p. 266) is in this parish.

Brilley, a small parish on the S. slope of Brilley Hill, 1½ miles N. of Whitney station (M.R.).

The view from the summit of the hill is magnificent, the Black Mountains filling the foreground. The church (St. Mary the Virgin) retains few ancient features, though there is a massive font which looks like Norm. work, and a presbytery screen. The present vestry seems to have been a chapel. There is a cast-iron grave-slab (cp. *Burrington*, p. 109) in the churchyard, dating from 1669. Some 3 miles W. of Brilley is *Pen Twyn* camp, 1079 feet above sea level. It is defended on the W. by an earthwork, but on the other sides the natural slope of the hill appears to have been deemed sufficient protection.

Brimfield, a parish on the Shropshire border, along the Leominster and Ludlow road; nearest station Woofferton, 2 miles. The church (St. Michael), which has been largely rebuilt, is very unecclesiastical in appearance within. The font is of an unusual shape.

Brinsop (*i.e.* "Brina's hope"), a parish $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.W. from Hereford, lying between the Weobley and Kington roads, and reached by a lane from the latter. It possesses a famous old moated manor-house, Brinsop Court, the residence of the Danseys from the fifteenth to the beginning of the nineteenth century. It has recently been renovated or modernized, but retains its picturesqueness and interest. It is a rambling structure, chiefly Tudor in style, but embodying a good deal of fourteenth century work, which includes a banqueting hall (with a fine oak roof) and a chapel (with Dec. windows). Wordsworth, whose wife's brother (Mr. Hutchinson) once occupied the Court, was a fre-

quent visitor here, and a large cedar on the lawn is said to have been planted by him in 1827. The parish church (St. George) stands amongst some fields, and, though of unattractive appearance externally, has an interesting interior. It contains a Perp. screen (fourteenth century) and some beautiful old glass in its E. window, including a figure of St. George (early fourteenth century). On the S. of the chancel is a modern window to the memory of Wordsworth. On the N. wall is a displaced tympanum representing St. George and the dragon. Over the N. doorway are some curious early carvings, including the zodiacal sign of Sagittarius, and perhaps the Twins. The three bells are respectively inscribed with petitions to St. Margaret, St. John, and St. Michael ; and one of them has the head of Queen Eleanor. Near the church are some earthworks, square in plan, within which the building stands. The locality was known to the Romans, since a Roman well has been found here. It is not very far from the Roman town of Kenchester (p. 173).

Brobury, a parish on the left bank of the Wye, 8 miles E.N.E. from Hay. Its chief claim to attention is a lofty but sloping sandstone cliff, known as *The Scar*, which overhangs the river. On its summit are the traces of an encampment. It may be reached either by the "Monnington Walk" from Monnington, or by a lane leading from the Hay and Hereford road. The church stands near some farm buildings about half a mile S.W. of the Scar. It is a small aisleless structure, which owes its diminutive dimensions to the fact

BRINSOP COURT

that it is the chancel of the original church, and is all that remains of the fabric, the nave having been demolished in 1873. It contains a Norm. font with projecting spurs (or *griffes*) at its base, and a small ambry. Beneath a recess in the S. wall is an incised slab.

Brockhampton (1), a mansion standing in a beautifully wooded park, 2 miles E. of Bromyard, and commanding a pretty view across a neighbouring valley. Behind the house is a modern Gothic church with a pinnacled tower. Lying in the midst of some meadows about a mile to the N., and approached through a charming wood, is Old Brockhampton, a half-timbered house of the fourteenth century, surrounded by a moat. The moat is spanned by a picturesque gatehouse, with an upper chamber and a heavily studded door. The manor-house is a modest structure consisting of a half-timbered hall (provided with a gallery) and a brick wing, built at right angles to it, which contains the sleeping apartments and domestic offices. Except for a few curiosities housed within it, the hall is unfurnished, and with the owner's permission may be inspected.

Brockhampton (2), a parish near the Wye, 3 miles E. of Fawley station. The church was built in 1912. N. of the village is *Caplar Camp* (see p. 141).

Bromyard, a market town on the Frome in the N.E. of the county, 12½ miles N.E. of Hereford, and 10½ miles E. of Leominster, with a station on the Leominster and Worcester line. The population of the urban district in 1911 was

1703. The situation of Bromyard forms a pleasing contrast to that of most of the Herefordshire towns by reason of its elevation. It stands on a high plateau, 400 feet above sea level ; and on the opposite side of a shallow valley rise some breezy downs, a couple of hundred feet higher than the town itself. The surrounding district is hilly and picturesque, and the place forms a convenient centre from which to explore the less familiar corners of the county. The town has few artistic features, and is only redeemed from the commonplace by the irregularity of its arrangement. It thrives chiefly upon the advantages its market offers to the farmer, and upon some neighbouring brick and tile works. Charles I. stopped in the place on 3rd September, 1644, in the course of his uneasy wanderings up and down the shire. The only notable public building is the church (dedicated to St. Peter), a spacious cruciform structure, with a central tower and flanking aisles, standing at the N. end of the town, immediately above the station. The base of the tower is obviously Norm., with a characteristic circular stairway, a feature rare in Herefordshire. The body of the church also embodies some Norm. work. On the S. side is a rich Norm. doorway, surmounted by a small effigy of St. Peter bearing a key, and by a consecration cross. There are two other doorways on the opposite side of the church, of similar but rather less elaborate character. The interior has arcades, each of five bays, which, owing to the slenderness of the piers, have a somewhat attenuated appearance. The unusual carving of the

capitals on the N. and the smallness of the clerestory windows deserve notice. The cup-shaped Norm. font, with its interlaced pattern, suggestive of Celtic influence, and the handsome Elizabethan altar table should also be observed. There are a number of empty recesses in the walls of the aisles and transepts, but there are no monuments.

On the S.W. of the churchyard there once stood a palace of the bishops of Hereford, but it has now disappeared; and the old Grammar School, at the opposite end, founded in the reign of Elizabeth, has been transformed into a modern secondary school. At the entrance of the square in the centre of the town is a quaint but not very picturesque half-timbered house; but otherwise very few vestiges of antiquity remain. The surrounding district is much taken up with the cultivation of hops.

Bullingham, a parish lying between the old and new roads from Hereford to Ross, 2 miles S. of the city. The church is a recent building, erected in 1880. Near it are some remains of an earlier fabric. At *Lower Bullingham* is a modern nunnery of Poor Clares, consisting of a quadrangle enclosing a chapel, refectory, and cells. The Order was founded by St. Clare of Assisi, who instituted it by the direction of St. Francis in 1212.

Burghill, a parish 4 miles N.W. from Hereford, a little to the E. of the road to Weobley. It is the site of a former castle which stood on a knoll in close proximity to the church, and was probably the "burh" from which the place derives its name. All traces of it have now disappeared, and even its

earthworks have recently been levelled. The church (St. Mary), which, owing to the lowness of its tower and the height of its clerestory, has a rather hump-backed aspect, is approached by a fine avenue of yew trees, locally known as "the Twelve Apostles". It is a building of much greater interest and dignity than a first impression suggests. The interior is roomy, and displays several noteworthy features. It is thought to be Norm. with later alterations and additions; and the deeply splayed round-headed windows, the differently moulded piers, and the small square-headed lights of the clerestory should be observed. It possesses a rood screen in which the usual vaulting is replaced by coving and a leaden font, mounted on a stone pedestal exhibiting Norm. arcading, the thirteen arches enclosing as many figures, most of them sadly mutilated. This is one of the only two leaden fonts in the county, and is assigned by Mr. Bond to the thirteenth century. The stone pedestal doubtless belongs to the previous century. On the S. side of the sanctuary is an altar tomb with the effigies of Sir J. Milbourne and his wife (1455-75); and on the opposite wall, near an ambry, are two small seventeen century brasses—one, with figures in memory of John Aubrey, and the other, with an escutcheon, in memory of Robert Masters. On the S. side of the church, near the screen, is a piscina. Coleridge is said occasionally to have meditated beneath one of the many yews in the graveyard. *Burghill Court* and *Tillington Court* are mansions in the neighbourhood.

Burrington, a village in the extreme N. of the

county, 5 miles W.S.W. of Ludlow. The parish church, which was rebuilt in 1855, contains five iron grave-slabs, and a fine font. The reredos displays a good deal of modern sculpture.

Byford, a parish bordering on the Wye, on the northern Hay and Hereford road, 7 miles W.N.W. from the city. The church (St. John Baptist), which stands near the river, has a plain embattled tower built in 1717, but the rest of the fabric is mainly E.E., though a transept, thrown out on the S., is of later date. It has a good thirteenth century doorway, and an arcade with cylindrical piers and fluted capitals. A small lancet window remains in the N. wall of the chancel. Above the altar is a modern reredos. The font cover dates from the seventeenth century. Opposite the church is a picturesque sixteenth century house (Byford Court) with a fine entrance. Offa's Dyke here crosses the highway, and runs over the hill in the direction of Mansel Gamage, where traces of its existence are much more evident.

Byton, a small village in the hilly country on the Radnorshire border, 4 miles E. of Presteigne. The church was rebuilt in 1859.

Callow, a parish on the Hereford and Ross road, 3½ miles S. from Hereford. The church, which stands on a hill, is an aisleless building with an embattled W. tower, and was rebuilt in 1832. Its elevated situation enables it to command an extensive view of the neighbourhood of Hereford.

Canon Frome, a parish 3 miles N. of Ashperton station, on a by-road between the Ledbury-Bromyard and the Ledbury-Leominster roads. The

first part of the name is derived from a connexion which the place once had with Llanthony abbey: the second, which is due to the nearness of the Frome river, is sometimes spelt in the Welsh fashion, Ffrome. The church (St. James), which is situated in front of Canon Frome Court, was rebuilt at the end of the seventeenth century, and has been beautified in more recent years. The Court was originally moated, and entered by a drawbridge. In the Civil War it was the scene of some fighting, being defended by its owner against a force that was marching to Hereford. The present building is modern.

Canon's Norton (or *Norton Canon*), a village on the Hereford and Kington road, 9 miles N.W. from Hereford. The church (St. Nicholas), which stands in a pleasant situation a little off the highway, has been rebuilt (1706), but preserves its original tower. The porch contains a detached stoup; and within the building are some incised slabs. The church plate is pre-Reformation. The manor belongs to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, to whom it is said to have been given by the famous Godiva (wife of Leofric, Earl of Mercia) and her sister.

Canon Pyon, a parish 7 miles N.N.W. of Hereford, forming part of the capitular estates of Hereford Cathedral. The village straggles along by the side of the Pembridge road, but the church lies in seclusion half a mile to the W., between Canon Pyon Hill and another conical eminence called *Robin Hood's Butts*. It is a large and imposing fourteenth century building, with a handsome

and massive Dec. tower forming a S. porch ; but it is rather spoilt by the shrinkage of its foundations, which has thrown the walls of both the N. and S. arcades out of the perpendicular, the latter requiring the support of internal buttresses. The chancel was rebuilt in 1865, but retains a screen (largely of old material), the original stalls (with misericordes) and a trefoiled piscina. On the nave floor, immediately in front of the screen, is a large slab ruthlessly despoiled of its twin brasses. The clerestory is lighted by small square windows similar to those at Burghill. The largest of the five bells has the inscription, *I to the church the living call, and to the grave do summons all,* with the date 1728. On the summit of Pyon Hill is a stone summer-house, and in the neighbourhood is an encampment.

Castle Frome, a parish some 6 miles N. of Ledbury on the road to Bromyard, whence it is almost equally accessible. It has an interesting church (St. Michael) of Norm. origin, entered through W. and S. doors (having a semi-circular tympanum above the lintel), and lighted by several Norm. slits, together with windows of later date. The arch of the chancel is plain, without pillars or mouldings ; and part of the roof is panelled. There are two effigies in alabaster, representing a cavalier and a lady (seventeenth century), together with reliefs of their nine children. At the base of the mullion of the chancel S. window is another effigy of diminutive size, representing a knight in chain armour, holding a heart : it is supposed to indicate that the knight's heart, and not the rest of him, is

buried here (cp. p. 60). In the E. window are some fragments of ancient glass, but the most remarkable feature in the building is the massive font, supported on three figures, half man and half beast, thought to denote sins expelled by baptism. The bowl is covered with most curious carvings, including the emblems of the four evangelists and a representation of Our Lord's Baptism, with the Dove as emblem of the Spirit, and a Hand symbolizing the Father. Note, too, the Fish. Though doubtless of Norm. date, it seems, in the interlaced work that enriches it, to preserve traditions of Celtic art. There is a similar example at Eardisley (p. 132). Of the castle, which distinguishes the place from other Fromes, only the tump with faint traces of a moat now remains. The manor was granted at the Conquest to Walter de Lacy, who, by erection of the castle, took means to secure his possessions.

Clehonger (*i.e.* "clay slope" or "bank"), a parish 3½ miles W.S.W. from Hereford, lying between the right bank of the Wye and the southern road from the city to Hay. It possesses an interesting church (All Saints), which is a fairly large and well-preserved building with a battlemented tower, a S. aisle, and a N. transeptal chapel. It is chiefly of thirteenth century workmanship, but incorporates a Norm. doorway at its S. entrance. The roofs are worthy of notice, and some of the windows retain fragments of ancient glass. The font is early, and there are piscinas in the sanctuary, the S. aisle, and the N. chapel, the latter containing likewise an ambry and an image bracket. The most interesting features of the church, however, are its monuments.

One is a large recumbent effigy, in excellent preservation, of Sir W. Pembridge, K.G. (*temp.* Edward III.), in hauberk and surcoat. Near it is a small tomb with the diminutive effigy of a lady (said to be a member of the Aubrey family) whose feet rest upon a bird. This is believed by some to be merely a memorial of a heart interment (cp. p. 60). On the floor of the chapel is the brass of a knight and his lady of the time of Henry VI. The ancient stone altar-slab is preserved under the tower ; and a coffin-slab, with incised cross, is in a recess in the S. wall.

Clifford, a parish 2 miles N.N.E. of Hay (with a station). The interest of the locality centres in the castle, which was the birthplace of "Fair Rosamond," the mistress of Henry II. Clifford, one of the five Herefordshire castles mentioned in Doomsday, was given by William the Conqueror to William Fitz Osborn ; but passed by marriage to Richard Fitz Ponts, whose son Walter took the title of de Clifford. "Fair Rosamond" was the daughter of Walter de Clifford, and was born here about 1140. The castle, which stands 150 feet above the Wye, on its right bank, is the most westerly of those in Herefordshire which guard the river. The existing remains, which are very scanty, consist mainly of the ivy-clad base of a round tower and a few fragmentary walls, constituting part of an inner ward, and surrounded by a deep moat traversed by a narrow causeway. Outside the moat, which defended the fortress on the sides unprotected by the river, was an outer ward on a lower level, guarded by earthworks. The surviving

masonry is assigned by Robinson to the reign of Edward I. The parish church (St. Mary), which occupies an isolated position on high ground half a mile away, is considered to belong to the fourteenth century. Notice should be taken of the font (Dec.) and of a curious window in the S. wall of the nave; but the most interesting feature is the effigy of a vested ecclesiastic carved out of wood (an uncommon material, see p. 58), which is attributed to the thirteenth century. It is supposed to represent a member of the Walwyn family. There was formerly a monastic cell here belonging to a Cluniac priory at Montacute (in Somerset), and founded in the reign of Henry I. by Simon Fitz Walter, and further endowed with trading privileges by Roger, Earl of Hereford, in the reign of Henry II. The site is now occupied by a farm-house which still bears the name of the Priory farm.

Clodock, a village in the vale of the Monnow, picturesquely situated at the S.E. foot of the Black Mountains, 3½ miles N.N.W. of Pandy station on the main G.W. line to the North. The green and level floor of the valley, threaded by the stream and dotted with cottages, makes a pretty foil to the far-stretching and sombre mountain rampart rising precipitously in the background. The church (dedicated to St. Cleodicus or Clydog) in the centre of the village is a large and severe-looking building with a battlemented W. tower (possibly of Norm. origin), but with few other architectural pretensions. It is chiefly remarkable for its unreformed interior, though it is not devoid of a certain air of spacious dignity. The chancel arch is Trans., and exhibits

carelessly sculptured capitals, but is otherwise plainly moulded. In the N. wall are some round-headed lancets and indications of Perp. tracery in the mutilated windows on the S. The aisleless nave is spanned by fine oak beams resting on a bold timber cornice. Among the miscellaneous furniture of the church are some ancient benches and a chest dated 1691.

Coddington, a parish about 3 miles W. of Colwall station. The church (All Saints), which stands on high ground, is an E.E. structure, with unusually narrow lancets. Originally there were two lancets at the west end corresponding to the pair still preserved at the E., the gable being surmounted by a belfry. But the belfry has been replaced by a modern tower with a broach spire, which in style is quite out of keeping with the rest of the building. There is an early piscina in the chancel.

Collington, a parish 4 miles N. of Bromyard. There were once two neighbouring parishes bearing this name ; but in 1352, after the Black Death, they were so depopulated that the patrons petitioned the bishop to amalgamate them. The existing church was built in 1856.

Colwall, a large parish on the W. side of the Malvern Hills, with a station on the Hereford and Worcester line. Horse-races (both flat and hurdle) have been instituted here, the meetings taking place five times a year ; so the locality attracts a number of sportsmen. There are also golf-links on the spurs of the Herefordshire Beacon (*infra*). The bulk of the population is now clustered round the

station and racecourse, so that the ancient parish church (St. James the Great) stands almost in isolation about a mile away. It exhibits illustrations of more than one period of architecture, for the S. door and S. arcade are Norm., whilst there are E.E. lancets at the E. and S. of the chancel, which contains a piscina and sedile. There is a quaint brass on the S. wall of the nave displaying the effigies of Antony Hanford, his wife, and his children, and dating from 1590. On the external wall, near the S. door, there formerly existed some panel work (perhaps a Calvary) which has been erased. Near the station is a massive stone of uncertain origin. Within the parish is *Hope End*, associated with Mrs. Browning, the poetess, who resided there in her youth. Some 3 miles S.E. of Colwall is the *Herefordshire Beacon*, one of the summits of the Malvern range. It is over 1100 feet above sea level, and is the site of a remarkable camp, the citadel of which is visible for miles round. This citadel, which is 60 feet above the separate fosse that surrounds it, is of very small extent, and is protected by a rampart of low elevation; but numerous other earthworks and ditches cut the steep flanks of the hill, so that an attack upon it, in the face of resolute defenders, must have been an extremely difficult undertaking. Besides the ramparts safeguarding the citadel, there is an earthwork extending along the ridge to the N. and S., 1½ miles in circumference, and enclosing 20 acres. The discovery here of pottery of early British date shows that a Celtic people once occupied the hill, and were probably the first to

fortify it ; but part of the existing fortifications is thought to be of post-Conquest origin, the defences of the citadel being attributed by antiquaries to the Normans. Owain Glyndwr is said to have spent eight days here in 1405. Below the camp on the S. is an exposed rock, in which a small cave has been excavated : it is variously known as the *Hermit's Cave* or *Clutter's Cave*. Near it is *Walm's Well*, a spring which is reputed to have medicinal qualities serviceable in cases of cutaneous disease. The reservoir that furnishes the Malvern water-supply has been constructed not far from the camp.

Cowarne, Little, a parish near the Loden, an affluent of the Frome, 5 miles S.W. of Bromyard. The little church, restored in 1869, was originally built in Norm. times, and still retains a Norm. window in the N. wall. There is a piscina in the usual position, but the drain, oddly enough, has been transferred to the ambry opposite.

Cowarne, Much (or *Cowarne Magna*), a parish 6 miles S. of Bromyard. The church (St. Mary) which is situated rather out of the way, contains an unexpected lot of monuments. The earliest is the figure of a warrior in armour, probably dating from the thirteenth century. The story is that it represents one Grimbald, who was taken prisoner, and for whose ransom a joint of his wife was demanded. The lady, with true wifely devotion, cut off her left hand and sent it to her husband. The others belong to the seventeenth century. Of these one is an altar tomb in the S. aisle, supporting the effigies of Edmund Foxe (d.

1617) and his wife Anne, with representations, at the side, of their three sons and seven daughters. The second, in the S. wall of the chancel, is a female effigy (1624), with figures of two sons and two daughters. There are three piscinas—one in the chancel and two in the S. aisle. In the external N. wall are the remains of an arcade, and a broken piscina will be observed on a pier, pointing to the existence of a chapel, now destroyed. At Cowarne Court there is an interesting dovecot.

Cradley (perhaps "Creda's meadow"), an extensive parish on the E. side of the county, lying at the N.W. foot of the Malvern Hills ; nearest station Colwall, 5 miles. There is a largish church (St. James), which has been restored, though the main walls are ancient. The oldest part is the base of the tower, which seems to be of Norm. date : note the character of the slits on the S. and N. The upper portion is Perp. On the N. side is inserted a carved stone which has been thought to be of pre-Norm. origin. The body of the church is perhaps E.E. : observe the lancets at the E. end. There are few features of interest, but there is preserved a very fine old chest ; and in the sanctuary are two carved oak chairs. On the S. of the chancel is a Latin inscription to Margaret Smith (d. 1613).

Crasswall, a chapelry in the parish of Clodock, 5 miles S.E. from Hay, lying in a wooded dingle on the outskirts of the Black Mountains. It can be reached either by a path across the mountains from Hay, or by a hilly road up the valley of the Monnow from Longtown. For the tourist the

CRASSWELL, GRANDMONTINE PRIORY, THE CHAPTER HOUSE

journey has both an artistic and an antiquarian interest, for the mountain scenery is impressive, and the objective of the excursion is a ruined priory. Little, however, now remains of this secluded monastic establishment but a heap of stones, though recent investigation has done something to straighten out the débris. The priory, which could never have been a large one, was founded for Benedictines in 1222 by Roger de Lacy, as a cell in connexion with the foreign abbey of Grandmont in Normandy. It was suppressed, along with other alien priories, in the reign of Edward IV., and its revenues were granted to Christ's College, Cambridge. The ruins lie in a thickly wooded dell, known as *Cwm-y-cadno*, "the dingle of the fox," W. of the abbey farm; and consist of the walls of the church and chapter-house. The church measured 104 feet by 35, and had an apsidal E. end. The stone altar is *in situ;* and on the S. side is a double piscina flanked on each side by a sedile. There is a doorway on either side of the sanctuary; the one on the S. leads into the now demolished cloisters. A fourteenth century doorway on the E. side of the cloister-garth opened into the chapter-house, which still retains the bases of the E.E. pillars and the springers which supported the roof. Beyond it is another chamber supposed to have been the refectory. Several interesting articles have been discovered amongst the ruins, including fragments of painted glass, encaustic tiles, a stone coffin, and a leaden casket for relics (which was once deposited in a cavity near the altar). The parochial church lies further down the valley, and consists of a nave

and chancel, the former of which is now disused. The E. window is said to have been originally the W. window of the monastery. To the N. of the church are the traces of a cock-pit.

Credenhill ("Creda's hill," p. 71), a parish on the Hereford and Kington road, 4 miles N.W. of Hereford, with a station on the line to Hay. The conical and well-wooded hill which gives the parish its name, is a conspicuous and pleasing eminence as viewed from Hereford, and is of some antiquarian interest, for its summit (715 feet) is encircled by a prehistoric camp of nearly 50 acres. This is protected by a double line of earthworks, pierced by three entrances; and within the enclosure are some ponds. From the foliage on the slope of the hill there projects the belfry of the little parish church. It is a small aisleless building, of some considerable antiquity, with a curious triple chancel arch, the central opening being plain, and those on either side floriated. The arch was originally single. The S. door of the chancel is round-headed and probably Norm. The church is entered through a lofty wooden porch (fourteenth century); and the S. window of the choir preserves two small panels of fourteenth century glass, representing St. Thomas à Becket and Bishop Cantelupe (died 1282 and canonized 1327). The font, with an inscription exhibiting some eccentric spelling, is dated 1667. Adjoining the churchyard is the Hall: the neighbouring park is notable for its fine timber.

Croft, a park and manor-house 6 miles N.W. of Leominster; the nearest station is Kingsland, 4

miles. The manor is related to have been in the possession of the Croft family from the reign of Edward the Confessor (when the lands were owned by Bernard de Croft) till that of George III. The house (Croft Castle) presents an imposing embattled front, and encloses a courtyard, having round towers at the angles. Viewed from the road leading from Yarpole to Mortimer's Cross, it is less impressive. The park is extensive, and has a fine avenue of chestnut trees. These are said (very improbably) to be the produce of seeds brought by one of the ships of the Armada. The vessel was wrecked on the Welsh coast near a house belonging to Sir James Croft, the then owner of the estate, who planted the seeds here. In the park is a church (St. Michael and All Angels), which contains several monuments. The most interesting is an altar tomb supporting the effigy of Sir Richard Croft and his wife (1471), with figures in relief at the sides and ends. On the hill N. of the park is the large camp of *Croft Ambrey* (the latter half of the name being supposed to come from Ambrosius). It occupies a position of considerable elevation (nearly 1000 feet above sea level), and is elliptical in shape, covering an area of 24 acres. The entrance is on the S.W., the most accessible side ; and here the artificial defences are the strongest. On the N. and S.W. it is protected by the natural fall of the hill.

Cusop (formerly Cheweshope, *i.e.* "Ceawa's hope"), a parish 1 mile S.E. of Hay, of which it may now be regarded as a residential suburb. The Dulas brook, which tumbles down from the base of

the Black Mountains, forming some cascades on its way, here divides Herefordshire from Wales. The village stands at the entrance of a wide valley which separates the long ridge of Cusop Hill from the outlying spurs of the Black Mountains, and commands a wild and sombre landscape. The church (St. Mary) is a plain building without aisles or tower, and exhibits some signs of antiquity. The S. doorway (near which a detached stoup is preserved) is a typical specimen of Norm. work ; and an unmoulded semi-circular arch forms the entrance to the chancel. There is a small Norm. window in the nave ; but E.E. lancets occur in the chancel, and the N. chapel exhibits a good Dec. window. The font, ornamented with a lozenge pattern, is Norm. In the churchyard are some yews of majestic girth : in the shade of one of them is the "Martyr's grave"—a tombstone commemorating the death of one Wm. Seward, an itinerant preacher from Worcestershire, who is said to have been harried to death by a Hay mob in 1742. Near the church is the site of Cusop Castle, a fortress which in the time of Edward III. was owned by the De Clanowes. Duncumb describes it as "lying on the declivity of a hill and surrounded by a single fosse and embankment". On the top of a conical tree-clad hill to the E. of the village are some other entrenchments, locally known as *Mouse Castle*. They are popularly believed to have been the earthworks of another mediæval fortress, but they are probably the remains of a prehistoric encampment. Within the rampart (which is double) is an exposed face of rock having

the appearance of a wall of masonry. The summit of the hill commands a fine view of the Wye valley, with the Breconshire Beacons and the Shropshire hills in the distance.

Dewchurch, Little, a village standing on high ground on the old Hereford and Ross road, 5½ miles S.S.E. from Hereford. Its name preserves the memory of St. David (the Welsh *Dewi*), to whom the church is dedicated. The elevated ridge over which the road to it passes commands an extensive view of the S. portion of the shire. The church stands in a dell, ¼ mile to the W. of the village. It is a comely little structure with a battlemented W. tower, but is of no particular interest.

Dewchurch, Much (anciently Llanddewi), a village on the Ross and Hay road, 7 miles S. from Hereford (nearest station Tram Inn, 3 miles, on the Hereford and Abergavenny line). The natural picturesqueness of its situation, amongst the wooded hills between Hereford and Monmouth, is enhanced by the adjacent glades of Mynde Park, which surround it on the S. The church (St. David), in the centre of the village, is a bulky building with a massive W. tower. It exhibits Norm. work in the S. doorway, the chancel arch, and some of its windows. At the N.E. corner of the sanctuary is a shelf marked with a foliated cross, which may have been used as an Easter sepulchre. Behind the pulpit is a large mural monument with the kneeling effigies of Walter Pye de Mynde, Attorney-General under James I., and his wife (1625). Their children are figured below on the panel. On the sill

of the window adjoining it are the recumbent effigies of some other members of the same family, John and Walter Pye de Mynde (sixteenth century). The pulpit is Jacobean. In the porch are some fragments of interlaced sculpture; and in the churchyard is the base of a cross with a modern shaft and head. *Mynde Hall*, the seat of the Pyes, stands in a large deer park containing an ornamental lake. The most striking feature of the house is its large hall. Another mansion, *Bryngwyn*, adjoins the estate. A $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the church are the remains of a camp; and near the cross-roads is the site of a demolished tumulus, *Wormelow Tump*.

Dewsall, a parish $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. of Hereford, lying to the W. of the Hereford and Monmouth road. The name is said to be a corruption of "Dewi's (or David's) well". The parish was formerly attached to the alien priory of de Lire, presentations being made by the prior or by the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. The church, now dedicated to St. Michael, stands in a meadow rather out of the track of tourists, but is within easy reach of Tram Inn station. It is a small aisleless building, with a timber porch and shingled spirelet, dating probably from the sixteenth century. It contains nothing of interest but a cup-shaped font, somewhat sparingly adorned with the ball-flower ornament. The adjoining farm-house—Dewsall Court—was once a residence of the Dukes of Buckingham and Chandos, and preserves some fine oak carvings and old paintings.

Dilwyn, a compact village, 6 miles S.W. of Leominster, with a large and interesting church

(St. Mary the Virgin), the massive tower of which is surmounted by a disproportionate spire. It is entered through a good Dec. S. porch, and has two arcades supported on cylindrical columns, above which are clerestories. It looks like an E.E. building, altered at a later date. Such alteration is particularly noticeable in the clerestories, where tall Perp. windows (fifteenth century) have been inserted by the side of earlier lights, and the roof raised. There is a good screen, the lower part of which seems to be original. On the N. there is a large transeptal chapel, belonging to a later date than the nave, and rising above the original clerestory of the latter ; this preserves its piscina and ambry, and there is also a piscina at the E. end of the S. aisle. There is a third piscina, of the Dec. period, in the chancel, and an ambry of the same character opposite (cp. *Mathon*). Some ancient glass in a S. window of the chancel should be observed. The only important monument is the effigy of a knight in chain armour and surcoat, with the sword carried across the front of the body—these features pointing to a thirteenth century date (see p. 58). At the W. end is a slab from which two brasses have been unscrupulously torn. There are two fonts, one apparently a very early one ; and a number of slabs with floriated crosses are preserved in the S.W. angle of the church. To judge by a broken arch at the W. end of the building, it would seem that the tower does not occupy its original site. Within the parish is *Luntley Court*, a fine specimen of a timber-fronted manor-house, which bears the date 1674. Near it is a remarkable pigeon-house, four-

gabled, of about the same date: it contains (it is said) 560 nesting places.

Dinedor, a parish situated to the S.E. of Hereford, 3 miles away (if a path across some fields be followed, the distance can be shortened). The small church, which is E.E. in style, was restored in 1868. On the hill above (known as *Oyster Hill*) is a camp extending over 10 acres. The name Oyster Hill has been absurdly connected with the Roman general Ostorius Scapula: whether the camp was ever used by the Romans is doubtful. Like the neighbouring camp at Aconbury (p. 86), it seems to have been occupied in the Civil War. On some sides the position apparently depended for its defence upon the natural steepness of the hill; but on others, where, as on the N.E., it is most accessible, the earthwork is of considerable altitude, both internally and externally. The view which the summit of the hill commands is a very extensive one, and the locality is near enough to Hereford to be a favourite resort.

Dinmore, a small chapel dedicated to St. John of Jerusalem and St. John the Baptist, on Dinmore Hill, 1½ miles S.W. of Dinmore station. It was originally erected in the twelfth century, and was attached to a Commandery of Knights Hospitallers that once existed here. Rebuilt in 1370 and restored in 1886, it is now the property of the lady of the manor. The manor-house occupies the site of the Commandery (or, as invariably styled, Preceptory), and contains some valuable paintings.

Docklow, a parish 5 miles E. of Leominster, on the Bromyard road. The route to it from Leo-

DINMORE, THE CHAPEL OF THE PRECEPTORY OF THE KNIGHTS HOSPITALLERS

minster is an almost continuous ascent, and eventually commands an extensive prospect, especially towards the S.W., where the Scyrryd Fawr and other hills near Abergavenny stand out very conspicuously. The church (St. Bartholomew), which in 1880 was pulled down and rebuilt, with the exception of the N. wall and the base of the tower, is of no interest. A little to the N. is *Uphampton Camp*, a prehistoric earthwork.

Donnington, 3 miles S. of Ledbury. The church (St. Mary), which is reached across a field, ¼ mile from the high-road to Newent, has been restored, but is thought to be of thirteenth century origin ; and such indications of date as have been preserved (*e.g.* the character of the chancel arch) agree with this estimate. There is a piscina in the sanctuary. Near Donnington some Roman masonry was discovered in 1906, but unfortunately destroyed.

Dormington, a parish some 4 miles E. of Hereford, on the Ledbury road : nearest station Stoke Edith, 2½ miles. The church (St. Peter) dates from the thirteenth century, but has been rather mercilessly restored, many ancient features having been obliterated. A few, however, still survive, the most noteworthy being (1) the ancient ring attached to the door (cp. *Pembridge*) ; (2) the sedile in the chancel, with a piscina cut on the stone close by (cp. *Sutton St. Nicholas*) ; (3) the twelfth century font. The chancel arch is exceptionally low, and has brackets (for figures) above it. The glass of the W. window is after Burne Jones. The roof of the church is original, and deserves atten-

tion. S.E. of the village is *St. Ethelbert's Camp*, on Backbury Hill. It covers 4 or 5 acres, stands 700 feet above sea level, is oblong in shape, and has a double trench on the N.W. side. On the E. it is protected by the natural slope of the hill. According to tradition, it was from this camp that Ethelbert in 792 proceeded to Sutton Walls, when paying court to Offa's daughter, and there met his death at the hands of her mother (see p. 244). At *Bartestree*, nearer Hereford, there is a small outcrop of igneous rock.

Dorstone (the earliest form of the name is Torchestone), a village at the head of the Golden Valley, 6 miles E. from Hay on the line from Pontrilas. Though not without other claims to attention, it attracts visitors chiefly by its proximity to the Herefordshire cromlech, *Arthur's Stone*, the only one which the county possesses. The cromlech is perched on the top of Merbach Hill (which at its highest point is 1045 feet above the sea), 1 mile N. of the village : directions for finding it are best obtained on the spot. The monument, though now carefully preserved and fenced, is unfortunately not quite perfect. It consisted originally of a large horizontal slab, some 19 feet long, and from 3½ to 12 feet broad, supported on a number of smaller vertical stones. Some of these have fallen out of position, and their displacement has fractured the capstone, which is now upheld mainly by a tilted fragment of its own under-surface, detached by the weather. Portions of the enclosing mound still remain ; and the original entrance to the sepulchral chamber is indicated by some up-

right flagstones. A pretty view over the Golden Valley is obtained from the site. Dorstone village itself is not without interest. The church (St. Faith, cp. *Foy*, p. 141) is an aisleless building, with a massive W. tower, but the greater part of the fabric has been rebuilt in recent times. Its chief curiosity is a small mediæval chalice and paten built into the wall beneath a recess on the S. side. It was found beneath a tombstone, fragments of which are preserved on the slab below. The grave is popularly said to be that of De Brito, one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket, who is alleged to have founded a church here in 1171, in expiation of his crime ; but the existence of the chalice proves that the tomb was that of a priest. A mutilated inscription cut on a fractured stone relates to the foundation of a chapel, and bears the date 1256. The chapel, which stood on the N. of the church, has now been taken down ; but its piscina is retained in the wall near the N. entrance to the church. There is also a beautiful double piscina, embodying an image bracket, preserved in the sanctuary ; and a stoup will be noticed inside the S. doorway. One of the pillars of the N. gateway of the churchyard is surmounted by a spherical sun-dial ; and another dial of more usual character is fixed at the top of the village cross. Near the village is a castle tump, the summit of which is 25 or 30 feet above the surrounding fosse, and is 108 × 84 feet across. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the castle belonged to the family of Solers (from whom Bridge Sollers derives its name). There is another tump at *Newton*, 1½

miles to the N.W. in the direction of Hay. A more imposing relic of mediæval military skill is *Snodhill Castle*, a ruin crowning a conical hill 1 mile to the S., on the right hand of the road to Peterchurch, and included in the latter parish. In Doomsday it is recorded as belonging to one Hugh l'Asne ; but is said to have been held afterwards by King Stephen, and to have eventually become one of the possessions of the famous Earl of Warwick, "the King Maker". A stone wall is stated to have existed in the sixteenth century, but now only the earthworks and some fragments of the central keep remain. The keep was octagonal in plan and was probably of Norm. construction. In spite of its dilapidation, the site still forms a picturesque object from the valley. Snodhill Court, now used as a farm, was once a mansion of some pretensions. It was built in 1665, and the initials which accompany the date on the stonework stand for William Prowse, its former owner. It contains a fine hall with an oak ceiling, and an oak staircase.

Downton, an isolated parish on the borders of Shropshire, occupying a position of considerable elevation, 5 miles E. of Bucknell station. The church (St. Giles) is modern.

Dulas, a small place 2 miles N.W. of Pontrilas. The church (St. Peter), rebuilt in 1869, retains the oak pulpit of an earlier fabric.

Eardisland, an attractive village on the Arrow, 5 miles W. of Leominster : nearest station Kingsland, 2½ miles. The place retains a number of black-and-white timbered houses, which are less dilapidated than is so often the case with buildings

of this character. The most remarkable is the *Staick House*, a long and low structure on the left bank of the river, near the bridge ; it is a charming example of the style, both externally and internally. It is said to date from the fourteenth century. The church (St. Mary), restored in 1865, is a long aisleless fabric, lighted with deeply splayed E.E. slits, and a few later windows. Within the S. door is the holy water stoup. In the chancel are triple sedilia and a piscina (Dec.) ; and there are empty recesses in the N. and S. walls. Another recess, with foliated canopy, will be observed in the external S. wall. Near the bridge on the opposite side of the river to the Staick House, is a curious four-gabled structure, known as the "Pigeon house". There are two defensive mounds. One, of considerable size, is situated between the church and the Court House farm, and is surrounded by a wet moat. The second, of very low elevation, is on the other side of the river, and can be seen from a lane running parallel to the stream (turn to the left after crossing the bridge).

Eardisley, an extensive village, with a station on the Hereford and Hay line, where the M.R. effects a junction with the G.W.R. from Kington. It has a fair proportion of the timber-fronted houses that are so characteristic of this part of Herefordshire. One of them—the *Upper House*, at the Kington end of the village—is credited with having a private oratory. There is a large and interesting church (St. Mary Magdalen), possessing aises separated from the nave by arcades of very divese characters. The S. arcade is obviously the older,

and seems to be of Norm. date : it has round arches resting on rectangular piers, with chamfered edges and small ornaments at the angles of the capitals. One pier of unusual size has two recesses. Above the arcade is a Perp. clerestory. The N. arcade has pointed arches supported by octagonal piers, and probably belongs to the Dec. period. Of the windows five appear to be of Norm. date, four in the N. wall and one in the S. Amongst other features of the building note (1) stoup in the S. porch ; (2) piscina in the S. aisle ; (3) rood-loft stair on the S. of the chancel arch ; (4) sedilia and piscina in the chancel (the floor of which has apparently been raised and the E. wall put back) ; (5) small brass on the floor of the nave, dated 1687. But the chief treasure of the church is the splendid font, the stem of which is profusely covered with intricate carving, whilst on the bowl are depicted two strangely incongruous scenes. One represents Our Lord rescuing from "the roaring lion" a prospective victim, whilst another figure on the opposite side holds a book. As the heads of both of the human figures, as well as that of Christ, are surrounded by aureoles, they are presumably saints, and it may be conjectured that the one endangered by the lion is St. Peter (cp. St. Luke xxii. 31): possibly the other is St. John. The second scene portrays two soldiers fighting : one armed with a spear is stabbing in the leg another armed with a sword. Both warriors wear trews ; and the figures should be compared with those depicted on the doorways at Kilpeck and Shobdon (see pp. 175, 238). In richness the nearest parallel to this font within

the county is at Castle Frome (p. 112). West of the church is the site of a fortified castle, which may be reached by passing through the churchyard. The mound (or keep), together with an extensive court (now occupied by a farm) on its E. side, is enclosed by a moat still filled with water; and there are traces of other defensive works on the W. of the moat, embracing additional courts. The estate once belonged to the Norman Roger de Lacy; and a *domus defensibilis* is mentioned in Doomsday as being situated here. Subsequent possessors were the Bohuns and Baskervilles. About half a mile away, on Hurstway Common, is an immense oak known as the Eardisley oak.

Eastnor (see p. 71), a village 2½ miles E. of Ledbury. The country round it is very picturesque, as the place is situated in a gap between the Malvern Hills and an adjoining ridge. There are two castles in the vicinity, one ancient and one modern, the former a mere ruin. The modern structure—*Eastnor Castle*—was built by the first Earl Somers in 1812 on the site of an old mansion, and is modelled on the style of a baronial castle of the time of Edward I. The hall, which is very spacious, contains a valuable collection of paintings, sculpture, and armour; and the surrounding park is well stocked with deer. The parish church (St. John the Baptist) which, though rebuilt in 1852, preserves the respond of a Norm. pier at the E. end of the arcade, contains, in a N. chapel, the tomb and effigy of Lord Somers. The remains of the ancient fortress mentioned above—*Bronsil Castle*—lie some little distance to the left of the Tewkesbury road. The castle was erected in

the fifteenth century by Richard Beauchamp ; was nearly quadrangular in plan, with corner octagonal towers ; and was defended by two moats, of which the inner is well preserved, and the other can be traced. The obelisk which stands near it was raised by Earl Somers in memory of his son, the Hon. Major E. C. Cocks, who fell at Burgos in 1812. Two miles to the E. of the village are two eminences forming part of the Malvern range, which are known as *Midsummer Hill* and the *Holly-bush*. They are twin summits of one hill rather than separate hills, and are encircled by a single earthwork. On the eastern summit there appears to be a long barrow ; and in certain places there are (or are believed to be) traces of hut circles. The boundary between Herefordshire and Worcestershire extends for some distance along the Malvern ridge and is here marked by the *Red Earl's Dyke*, which was cut by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and designed by him to sever his possessions from those of the Bishop of Hereford.

Eaton Bishop, a village 5 miles W.S.W. from Hereford. The proximity of the Wye, which here flows beneath some steep and wooded banks, makes the place something of a popular resort. The view across the river to the sylvan slopes of Credenhill and Ladylift is very picturesque ; and some antiquarian interest attaches to the site, for circling the plateau which commands the prospect are traces of an almost obliterated encampment, enclosing an area of 30 acres, which once occupied the promontory between the river and an adjacent defile. The church (St. Michael and All Angels), which is

perched at the opposite edge of the plateau, has a Norm. tower with a shingled broach spire, but the nave is later. There are sedilia, an ambry, and a piscina in the sanctuary, whilst the E. window and another adjoining window are filled with ancient glass brought in 1752 from the Bishop's dismantled chapel at Sugwas. The Roman road, now called "Stone Street" (the southern continuation of "Watling Street"), passed near Eaton Bishop, and various Roman remains (such as an urn and two lamps, now in the Hereford Museum) have been found here. Some pre-Roman bronze celts have also been picked up in the neighbourhood.

Edvin Loach, an isolated parish 3 miles to the N. of Bromyard. The original form of the first half of its rather curious name was *Gedefin*, and assumed its present shape through the change of *g* into *y*, which subsequently disappeared. The second half is derived from the de Loges family who owned the manor in the thirteenth century. The church, a neat modern building with a pyramidal spire and a polygonal apse, crowns the crest of a ridge, and can only be approached by a circuitous lane. The ruins of an older structure are enclosed in the churchyard, and are remarkable for the extensive herring-bone masonry displayed in the N. wall. A portion of the tower still survives, and in the S. wall of the roofless nave is a plain round-headed doorway with an unsculptured tympanum. Within is a loose stoup and the base of an old font with zigzag ornamentation. To the S. is *Saltmarsh Castle*, a modern castellated mansion.

Edvin Ralph, a parish $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N.W. of

Bromyard. The church (St. Michael) is down a lane leading from the Tenbury road. It is an aisleless building with a squat E.E. tower, surmounted by a shingled broach spirelet. The S. doorway has a pointed arch, but is otherwise characteristically Norm., the supporting shafts showing square abaci, and the impost of the outer jamb exhibiting some typical sculpture. Inside the church are two empty recesses in the N. wall, the moulding terminating in a human head. Between these is a small lancet window. There are the traces of a castle mound in a neighbouring field.

Elton (*i.e.* "Ella's ton"), a parish in the extreme N. of the county, 4½ miles S.W. of Ludlow, in a well-wooded district. The church was originally Norm., and still possesses some ancient features. The chancel screen and pulpit are Elizabethan. Near the entrance to the church is preserved a stone slab which is supposed to be the former altar.

Evesbatch, a somewhat isolated parish 6 miles S.E. of Bromyard, on the hilly ground which stretches in the direction of Ledbury. An earlier form of the name was Esebach, the first part perhaps coming from the Anglo-Saxon *aesc* (ash), so that the whole means "Ashbrook". The parish church of St. Andrew, which stands on the slope of a dingle, is a small aisleless building, with a wooden bell turret and an open timber S. porch. It contains nothing of antiquarian interest except an ancient font. In the garden of a neighbouring residence is a large circular stone which looks as if it may once have formed the base of a churchyard cross.

Ewyas Harold, a village on the Dulas brook, 1 mile N.W. from Pontrilas station, and once notorious as the site of one of the earliest Norm. strongholds in the county. This was erected by Osborn Pentecost in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and earned an ill-reputation amongst the inhabitants of the district for the lawless violence of its owner. It was demolished by Harold, the son of Earl Godwine, in 1052; but when, after Harold's fall at Hastings, the Conqueror took possession of the country, it was rebuilt by the new king's doughty henchman, William FitzOsborn, who handed it over to the custody of his son Harold, from whom the locality is believed to derive its name. Only the lofty conical mound on which the castle stood, and its adjacent earthworks, remain; and at its foot the village now reposes in undisturbed peace. The mound is, however, formidable enough to recall the terror of ancient days. It rises impressively 53 feet above the fosse at its foot, and was formerly crowned by a shell keep, 30 yards in diameter. The base-court lay to the E., and the artificial defences of the stronghold were rendered all the more secure by its position at the junction of two streams. The church (St. Michael and All Angels), which is overlooked by the castle mound, is an aisleless building of some antiquity, but much restored. It retains, however, a truncated E.E. tower, which displays a good bold doorway on its S. face, with triple lights in the belfry stage above. The tower belonged to a priory of Benedictines founded originally at Dulas by Robert of Ewyas,

but subsequently transferred here. It is said to have been bestowed upon the Abbey at Gloucester, whither its monks were eventually removed in 1338. Within the church itself on the N. side is the effigy of a lady holding in her hand a heart casket. She is depicted with the lower portion of her face in the curious head-dress which denotes that the wearer was a vowess. It is said that when the tomb was opened, it was found to contain nothing but a casket which once evidently contained a heart.

Eye (from the Old English *ig*, "island," as it lies between two small streams), a parish 4 miles N. of Leominster (with a station called by the double title of Berrington and Eye). The place is said to have once possessed a small priory, removed here from Shobdon. The church (St. Peter and St. Paul) is interesting. The tower seems to have been rebuilt, and departs from local types, having a turret rising above the summit. The body of the church, to judge from the N. door and the arcades, seems to be of Trans. date, though the chancel has some features proceeding from a later period, such as an E.E. window (looking into the vestry) and a Dec. doorway. There is a piscina in the usual position. The pulpit is Jacobean, with quaint figures. On the N. and S. walls respectively are a medallion (representing St. Peter and St. Paul) and an ancient figure (apparently an ecclesiastic). The part of the building that deserves most attention is a N. chapel, which, besides preserving its piscina, contains two altar tombs. One of these supports the effigy of a mailed but bareheaded knight; the other has two effigies—a knight (likewise bare-

headed) and his lady. Both of the male figures wear *SS* collars (the Lancastrian badge, see p. 101), and the second has the Tudor rose at his belt. They are supposed to be Cornewalles, the former lords of *Berrington Hall*, which lies E. of the village. The present Hall was built by Thomas Harley, Lord Mayor of London, at the close of the eighteenth century, and passed by marriage to the Rodney family, by whom it was sold to its present owner. Within the park, on an island in the middle of a lake, is a heronry, one of two which the county possesses. The old Vicarage House has some decorated Italian ceilings of seventeenth century date. Not very far from Eye are a tump (*Ashton Castle*) and a camp, of which the ramparts are largely destroyed.

Eyton (pronounced A-ton), a parish 2½ miles N.W. of Leominster (at the Common, where the road forks, take the right branch). The church is thought to have been originally Norm. (there is still a round-headed window in the chancel), but to have been rebuilt in the fourteenth century. Its chief possession is a finely carved rood-screen (fifteenth century), and it also has a chalice of the date of 1588.

Fawley, a chapelry (with a railway station) 4 miles N.N.W. of Ross. The Court is a Caroline structure (built in 1635) which formerly belonged to the Kyrles, but is now a farm.

Felton, a parish 7 miles S.W. of Bromyard. The church (St. Michael) was entirely rebuilt in 1854.

Ford (or *Ford Bridge*), see *Stoke Prior*.

Fownhope, a village 7 miles S.E. of Hereford, on the left bank of the Wye. It has a very imposing parish church, though this is perhaps more impressive externally than interesting internally. Its finest feature is its tall Norm. tower, on the N. side of the fabric, carrying a shingled broach spire of modern date. The internal tower-arches are dissimilar, the W. being round, the E. pointed, whilst the S. looks to be of somewhat later date than either of the other two. There are three piscinas, in the chancel, a S. chapel (now the organ chamber), and the S. aisle respectively. In the chancel walls are two recesses, one elaborately decorated with the ball-flower ornament; but the figures which they presumably once contained are lost. Inside the N. door is a broken stoup; an incised stone, displaying a cross and chalice, is fixed against the S. wall; and there are two carved chairs in the sanctuary, one of which bears the date 1634. On the W. exterior wall of the church is affixed a very curious Norm. tympanum, showing two aureoled figures, the one holding the other, and each with the right hand raised to bless. They are supposed to represent the Virgin and Child. On either side are a winged lion and a bird, probably the symbols of St. Mark and St. John. Outside the building, by the roadside, are the parish stocks. The Court is a timbered Elizabethan mansion. In the neighbourhood of Fownhope are two camps. One—*Cherry Hill Camp*—lying a little distance to the N.W., is small in size and elliptical in shape, with a single entrenchment. It was probably intended to command the ford of the

Wye opposite Holm Lacy. The other—*Caplar* or *Woldbury Camp*—which is sometimes foolishly associated with the Roman Ostorius Scapula (cp. p. 126), is larger, and stands 600 feet above the sea. It is pre-Roman in origin, though a Roman coin, bearing the bust of Lucilla Augusta, daughter of Marcus Aurelius, has been found in it. In shape it is long and narrow, with a double entrenchment on the W. side, but only a single one on the other side. The entrance is at the S., and is strongly protected. The name seems to come from *capitularius*, the land having been in the ownership of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral.

Foy, a parish 3 miles N. of Ross, on the right bank of the Wye, which may here be crossed by a slender suspension bridge. The name is Norman-French, representing Saint Faith. The river makes in the vicinity a remarkable bend, comparable to that at Symonds' Yat. There is said to have once been a castle within the parish, which is now demolished. The church (St. Faith), which has a picturesque ivy-clad tower, is not lacking in interest. Note (1) the screen ; (2) within a recess in the E. wall of the nave a small slab with the figure of a lady in relief ; (3) on the sill of one of the windows a fragmentary stone, with traces of the figure of a lady ; (4) a small Norm. slit in the chancel ; (5) the unusual character of the roof and cornice. The glass in the E. window is said to date from 1675. On the opposite side of the river is *Eaton Hill*, on which there is a camp.

Ganarew, a parish in the extreme S. of the

county, about 3 miles from Monmouth. Its curious name seems to be a corruption of the Welsh *Geneu y rhiw*, "the mouth (or pass) of the hill". The present church, dedicated to St. Swithun, is modern. Near the Wye is the *Little Doward Hill*, some 600 feet above the river, surmounted by a camp occupying in all 19 acres. Its defences unfortunately have been much injured; and an iron watch-tower, 70 feet high, has been erected within it. A shallow fosse separates the main enclosure of 13 acres from another on the S.E., which covers 6 acres, and is protected by the perpendicular walls of the cliff. *Wyastone Leys* is a modern mansion charmingly situated in a deer-park near the river.

Garway, a lonely but extensive parish 6 miles S.E. of Pontrilas station and 11 miles W. of Ross, the road from which crosses Garway Common. The church (St. Michael and All Angels) stands in a field which shelves down to the stream of the Monnow. The building is a rather remarkable one. In the thirteenth century it belonged to a Preceptory of Knights Templars; but on the dissolution of that Order in 1308, it became the property of the Knights Hospitallers. It consists of a nave with an outstanding S. chapel, and possesses a massive semi-detached E.E. tower which stands obliquely to the church, with which it is connected by a low passage. The chancel is approached by a flight of steps underneath a Norm. archway of three orders, of which the capitals are curiously carved; the interior arch is scalloped in a very uncommon fashion. An exposed stairway leads from the chancel to the now demolished rood-loft. Within the chancel

should be noticed (1) Norm. windows ; (2) stone altar slab beneath the wooden Communion table ; (3) incised cross on the floor of the sanctuary ; (4) piscina in N. wall and outside the altar rails (probably not its original position). A heavy E.E. arcade, supported on cylindrical piers, divides the church from the S. chapel. The latter contains a Dec. piscina, a slab with a floriated cross, and a dug-out chest, 9 feet in length. In the nave should be observed (1) stoup on the N. side of the W. door ; (2) ancient seats ; (3) ornate cross with a carved head in the centre, affixed to the N. wall. The fragment of a sepulchral slab forms the lintel of the aperture which lights the corridor leading to the tower. The tower itself is said to have been once used as a prison. In a farmyard close to the church is a circular dovecot, roofed partly with stone, and vaulted within. Above its entrance is a tympanum. It is ascribed to the fourteenth century, and is believed to have been built by the Knights Hospitallers. It had nesting places for over 600 birds. On a hill overlooking the ancient ford of the Monnow are the remains of an encampment, from which some suppose the parish derived its name—Gaerwy (the water camp). Two miles to the N. of the village rises Garway Hill, a lofty eminence, on the slope of which are the *White Rocks*, a series of large boulders scattered promiscuously over the hillside. A track ascends the summit of the hill, which commands a superb and extensive prospect of the Monnow valley.

Goodrich, a parish 4½ miles S.S.W. of Ross, which is the centre of some delightful scenery and

the site of the most interesting castle that Herefordshire possesses. The place may be reached by two roads, on opposite sides of the Wye, the one on the left of the river, through Walford, being the best and shortest. If this is followed, the river is crossed at Kerne Bridge (toll for pedestrians, 1d.). Immediately after the river is passed there will be seen on the right the remains of *Flanesford Priory*, now treated as the adjunct of a farm. A few ecclesiastical-looking windows, with Dec. tracery in the upper portions, face the road. It was a monastery of Austin Canons, founded by Sir Richard Talbot in 1347, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. John the Baptist. A little further on, the main highway is crossed by a bridge which carries a road leading up *Coppet Hill* to Welsh Bicknor (p. 255). This should be ascended, for it commands a most charming view of the Wye and the surrounding counties.

Goodrich church (St. Giles) stands conspicuously on an elevated ledge of ground W. of the village. Externally it adorns its situation, for its high-pitched roofs and tall and graceful spire give it some picturesqueness of outline. But architecturally it is disappointing, and the interior is bare and uninteresting. It consists of a nave and N. aisle of equal length and height, separated by a Dec. arcade of alternate octagonal and cylindrical columns. The aisle, which is said to be the earlier, has some remains of mediæval glass, displaying in the upper part of the tracery the arms of the Talbots and the Earls of Shrewsbury. On the N. side of the sanctuary is an altar tomb with panelled sides and a plain slab, which is traditionally reputed to be the sepulchre of

Sir Richard Talbot, the founder of Flanesford Priory. The W. tower, of which the only ornament is a tapering spire, is of uncertain date. On the S. external wall of the nave is a blocked recess which looks as if it might once have contained a low-side window. In the churchyard is a stone seat with an inscription dated 1719. Dean Swift's grandfather, Thomas Swift, was vicar here; and his tombstone has been placed under the altar. The church possesses a chalice given by the Dean in 1726. Goodrich Court was erected in 1828-31 by Sir S. R. Meyrick, an antiquary who accumulated within it a splendid collection of ancient armour. It is a castellated mansion, with drum-towers and a drawbridge. The entrance hall is 75 feet by 32 feet, with carved oak walls and a hammer-beam roof.

The estate of Goodrich was bestowed by King John on William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke. In the fourteenth century it passed to the Talbots; in the seventeenth century to the de Greys (by marriage); and in the eighteenth century it was sold. The castle lies some distance from the road, and is reached by traversing a lane and crossing some fields. The journey from Ross can be shortened by following a lower and more ancient road than the modern highway and taking the ferry. It is said that Henry IV., whilst crossing the river here, heard of the birth of his son, afterwards Henry V.; and in his satisfaction at the happy event he bestowed the ferry and its emoluments upon the messenger. The castle is rectangular in plan (176 by 52 feet), and is entered on the E. side (fee 6d.), the moat being crossed by a drawbridge. The

entrance is very strongly defended ; the grooves of two portcullises will be observed, together with openings above, which enabled the defenders to give unwelcome visitors a warm reception by means of boiling water, oil, or tar. On the right (or N.) of the passage is the porter's lodge, with a groined stone roof. When the courtyard is reached, the visitor, if he turns his face to the S., will have before him the Norm. keep. This adjoins, but is not actually on, the S. wall. It is the earliest portion of the castle, dating from Stephen's reign, and consists of three stories—a basement and two upper floors. It was entered on the N. face at the first floor, the door being reached from the ground by means of a wooden ladder which could be removed if necessary. The doorway is now blocked, having been converted in the fifteenth century into a window. There is also an entrance into the basement ; this is regarded by some as not original. The Norm. character of the keep can be discerned from the buttress and the windows. The erection of it is ascribed to an Irish chieftain called Macbeth, who, taken prisoner with his son, constructed it by way of paying ransom for their release ; and it is sometimes called in consequence the Macbeth Tower. On the E. of the courtyard, and flanking the entrance passage, is the chapel. This is a very interesting structure. It consisted originally of three stories (like the keep), the basement being used as a cellar, the first floor constituting the chapel, and the second floor serving as a dwelling-room for the officiating priest. It is of thirteenth century date ; but contains fifteenth century E.

GOODRICH CASTLE, THE ENTRANCE

and W. windows, inserted in the reign of Henry VI. or Henry VII. Note in the chapel at the E. end (1) Dec. sedile ; (2) piscina on right ; (3) ambry on left. Near the W. end observe (1) stairway leading to the rood-loft, (2) piscina and (perhaps) ambry for the rood-loft altar. The existence of a rood-screen and loft in a private chapel is very rare. In the priest's room above note the hooded fireplace. The projecting tower that adjoins the chapel was for the use of a warder. On the same side of the courtyard, but further S., is a space which was formerly occupied by buildings probably intended for the men-at-arms. The S.E. angle tower contained dwelling-rooms ; the fireplaces on successive floors, and the piscina-like receptacles for getting rid of dirty water, should be observed. On the W. side of the courtyard was the banqueting hall, dating from the time of Edward I. It is lighted with handsome windows, through one of which can be obtained a most picturesque view of Goodrich Court. The hall is said to measure 60 by 30 feet. At its S. end was the buttery, occupying the basement of the S.W. angle tower ; and above the buttery were rooms, of which the fireplaces can still be seen. At the N. extremity of the hall was the solar (or withdrawing-room). Opposite the entrance into the court is a deep excavation. This was originally covered by flooring supported on a pillar which still stands ; and the chamber above it perhaps served as a council room. Beyond this was a tower. A noteworthy feature of the castle buildings (excluding the Norm. keep) is the general use of a particular variety of arch, called the Car-

narvon arch, characteristic of the Edwardian period of architecture. In the Civil War the fortress, defended by Sir H. Lingen, was the last in Herefordshire to hold out for the King against the Parliament. In the assault made upon it by the forces of the latter the walls were breached on the S. side; and after its capture it was "slighted" (as the phrase went) by the captors.

Grendon Bishop, a small hamlet 4 miles W.N.W. of Bromyard. The church was rebuilt in 1788. About a mile to the W. is *Westington Camp*, situated on a tongue of land, and naturally defensible on most sides by the fall of the hill. It seems to be doubtful whether it was ever artificially fortified.

Hampton Bishop, a parish 3 miles S.E. of Hereford. The church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, and lies a little off the road to Fownhope and Ross, has a half-timbered belfry superimposed on a base of (perhaps) Norm. origin. The body of the church consists of a nave and N. aisle, the latter being much shorter than the former, and ending at the W. with the tower. There is a good deal of Trans. Norm. work, including a S. door (with tympanum), a window on the N. side of the nave, and an arch with cylindrical piers, leading into a N. chapel. On the E. wall of this there is some fine but sadly mutilated tabernacle work, dating from the fourteenth century. The roof calls for a passing notice.

Harewood, see *Llandinabo*.

Hatfield, a parish 7 miles E. of Leominster, and about the same distance N.W. of Bromyard.

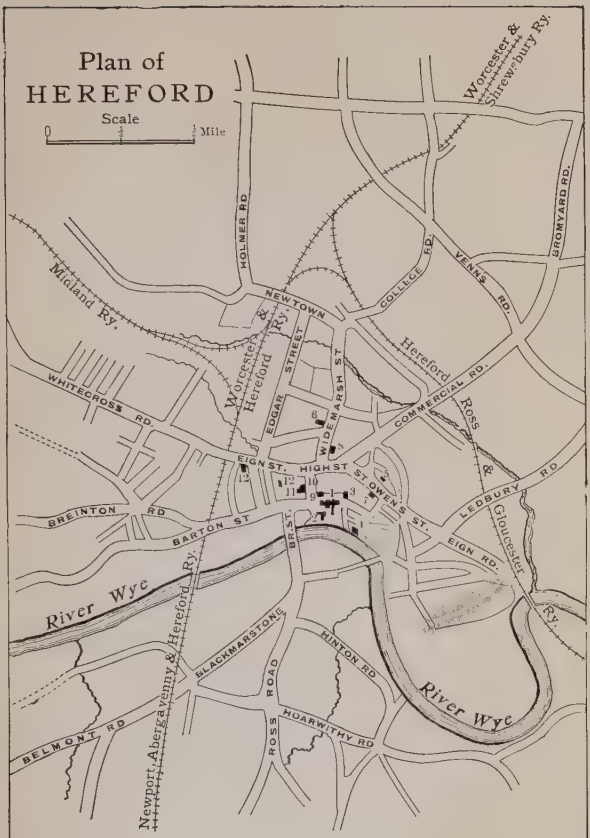
The church (St. Leonard) has been rebuilt, but retains vestiges of early work, a blocked doorway in the N. wall being attributed by Professor Baldwin Brown to the Norm. period. There is a piscina in the chancel. Hatfield Court is modern.

Hentland, 5 miles W.N.W. of Ross. The name looks like a corruption of the Welsh *hen llan*, "the old church," and the place has been thought to be the locality where, according to the *Book of Llandaff*, St. Dyfrig (Dubricius) in the sixth century had a college ; but many historians question the identification. There still survive in the church a few remains of early work, such as a Norm. window, a corbel head, and a sepulchral slab. The greater part of the tower is ascribed to the fourteenth century. *Kynaston* is a mansion which commands a fine view of the Wye.

HEREFORD, the capital of the county and the seat of the bishopric, is conveniently situated in the centre of the shire. It has a large station on the main G.W. line to the N., which also serves as a junction for the G.W. branches to Ross and Ledbury, and for the Midland line to Hay. The main line from the S. compasses the city by a long circuit before it enters the station, so that the traveller from that direction can contemplate his destination for some time before he reaches it, and an attractive picture it presents. The city lies in a level plain watered by the sinuous Wye, and girdled at a distance by low hills. From the midst of this green and pleasant landscape rise the tower of the cathedral and the spires of its accompanying churches. The favourable impression thus pro-

duced on the mind of the visitor is confirmed on closer acquaintance, for the streets are clean and commodious, the accommodation is ample, and the general aspect of the place is a pleasing blend of antiquity and modern convenience. The population in 1911 was just over 22,560. The city does not possess many manufactories, though it was once noted for gloves, and in former days could boast of fulling mills on the Wye. It produces, however, a good deal of cider, and it has also a large cattle market; and as a trading centre it supplies the needs of a considerable agricultural district.

The city had an earlier origin than the county, and gives to the latter its name. It was the importance which the city had already acquired that suggested the advisability of constituting the surrounding area a separate shire. How the place itself obtained its name is a moot point with etymologists. It is claimed to be of both Welsh and English origin. To the Welsh it was known as *Henffordd*, from an old ford by the castle "which," as Leland says, "many passed over or ever the great bridge on the Wye at Hereford was made"; but some maintain that when the Saxons ousted the earlier occupants from their dominions they re-christened the locality *Hereford*, "the ford of the army". The town, no doubt, like many another, grew to prosperity under the shelter of a fort; but by the time the Normans set to work to consolidate their possessions, the place had already acquired fortifications of its own, for the Doomsday Survey of 1086 speaks of its population as "dwelling together within and without the



REFERENCE

1. The Cathedral
2. Bishop's Palace
3. Deanery
4. Art School
5. Shire Hall
6. Theatre
7. Town Hall
8. Guildhall
9. Post Office
10. Free Library & Museum
11. Corn Exchange
12. Hospital

walls". The walls referred to were probably erected or rebuilt by Harold, after the town had been burnt by the Welsh in 1055. Its strategic position as an outpost on the Welsh Marches not only enhanced its military importance but secured for it civic privileges. It was the custom of the Norman barons to encourage the growth of civil communities beneath their castle walls for the purpose both of supplying their military and domestic necessities and of increasing their revenues by market tolls. FitzOsborn, when established by the Conqueror at Hereford, extended to its citizens the same privileges as had been enjoyed by the townspeople on his estates at Bréteuil. Its first actual charter, however, was obtained in 1117 from Henry I., and further liberties were wrung from Richard I. and John. The last charter which confirmed its rights was granted by William III.; and this continued in force until the municipalities generally were reformed in 1835. The boundaries of the mediæval city can still be traced, and even some fragments of its walls remain standing. These can be seen in Mill Street, Wall Street, and Victoria Street, and a bastion is preserved in some private grounds that are entered from St. Nicholas Street. The fortifications must have roughly described a semi-circle round the city, with the castle for its centre and the river for its chord. They were pierced by six gates through which the main arteries of the city had their exits. They were Wye Bridge Gate on the opposite side of the river (where old St. Martin's Church, now demolished, once stood), commanding the approach

from the S. ; Eign Gate on the W., spanning the road to Hay ; Widemarsh Gate on the N., in the street of the same name ; Byester's (or Bye Street) Gate, forming the N.E. entrance near St. Peter's Church ; St. Owen's Gate in St. Owen's Street on the S.E., through which passed the road to Ledbury ; and St. Nicholas Gate in St. Nicholas Street. The city is to-day entered from the same directions, though the gates have vanished. It has long outgrown its ancient limits, but it still keeps, in the main, to the left bank of the river. The district of Blackmarston (beyond the bridge), which straggles along the sides of the Ross and Abergavenny roads, occupies the site of an earlier transpontine suburb.

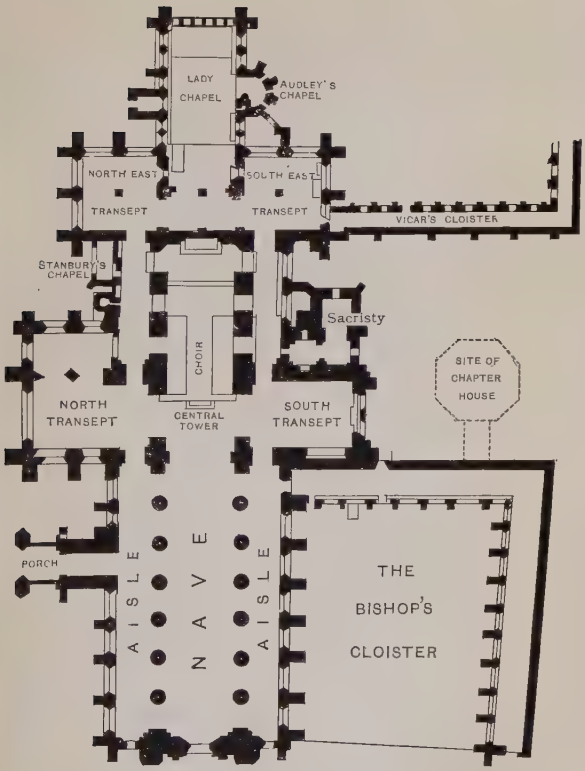
The city is approached from the station by a long and wide road which leads eventually into the Market Place, a fine open area, which is not, however, found too large on market days. This regard for spaciousness is characteristic of Hereford as a whole, though the main thoroughfare contracts with disconcerting abruptness as High Street is entered. Unfortunately most of the old timber houses, the picturesqueness of which would have atoned for this straitness, have disappeared ; and with them has disappeared also the fifteenth-century Town Hall, which once stood on the spot where Commercial Street forks, and was pulled down in 1862. What domestic architecture of this type could achieve is still happily illustrated by a fine old black-and-white house which is now used as a bank, but which was formerly the Butchers' Guildhall, and dates from 1621. The Butchers' Row which adjoined it has been de-

molished. The civic buildings are modern. The principal are the Shire Hall in St. Peter's Street, erected in the early part of last century and displaying a classical façade, in front of which is a statue of Sir G. C. Lewis ; the Town Hall, a modern terra-cotta structure, in one of the Committee rooms of which is preserved some handsome oak panelling belonging to a house that once occupied the site ; and the Free Library and Museum in Broad Street. In the Museum are collected a number of remains from the old Roman city of *Magna* (p. 173), including a tessellated pavement, coins, pottery, two altars, and a Roman milestone. The last bears the inscription IMP C MAR AUR NUMERIANO RPCD (read by Prof. Haverfield, *Imperatori Gaio Marco Aurelio Numeriano Respublica civitatis Dobunorum*). Amongst Hereford's chief attractions is its river. It is reached from Broad Street, which leads down to Wye Bridge, an ancient structure dating from 1490, one arch of which was broken down in the Civil War to prevent the entrance of the Scots into the city (p. 34). The stream was previously spanned by a bridge built in the twelfth century by R. de Capella. The view up the river from here is very attractive. On the right are the hanging woods of Credenhill and Ladylift ; and on the left, closing the prospect, are the distant summits of the Black Mountains. Footpaths lead in both directions along the river banks ; and boats may be hired in the vicinity. The Bishop's palace overlooks the river on the E. side of the bridge ; and beyond it are the castle grounds.

The castle is now represented by its earthworks only, and its site is a public walk. Its history is necessarily largely identical with the military history of the city: it is impossible to narrate the vicissitudes of the one without including the fortunes of the other. The origin of the fortress is obscure; probably it was first a Saxon burh, erected by the Mercians, on their conquest of the district, for the protection of their newly acquired territory. When the city was walled in the ninth century, as it is said to have been at the instigation of Queen Ethelfreda, the "Lady of the Mercians," it is not likely to have been without a citadel of some sort; but both city and fortress fell in 1055 before the combined onslaught of Earl Aelfgar and the Welsh leader Gruffydd ap Llewelyn, who pillaged and burnt them. Earl Harold, before setting out on his punitive expedition into Wales, made it his business to re-fortify the city; and he is generally regarded in consequence as the creator of its castle. When what is now Herefordshire came eventually into the hands of the Norman conquerors, Hereford was handed over to the custody of FitzOsborn, who strengthened its military defences and made it a base for further operations against the Welsh. In the tumultuous days of Stephen the castle was held by the partisans of Maud, but was not strong enough to resist the assault of Stephen's forces. Later on, John made Hereford his residence in the course of his feud with the barons; and in the next reign it was to Hereford that Prince Edward was brought a captive by Simon de Montfort after the royal defeat at Lewes, though he subsequently

made his escape from its walls by the connivance of Gilbert de Clare. Leland gives a lengthy description of the fortress as it stood in his day, though even then its decay had commenced. He says, "The Walles of it be high and strong, and full of great Toures, but now the whole Castle tendeth towardes ruine. It hath been one of the fairest, largest, and strongest Castles in England. It hath two wardes, and each of them environed by water." Notwithstanding its "ruine," it was substantial enough to be put into a state of defence in the Civil War of the seventeenth century, and underwent three successive sieges; but when finally it fell by a stratagem into the hands of the Parliamentary forces under Col. Birch in 1652, its total destruction was decreed. So thoroughly was the order carried out that almost every vestige of the fortress has disappeared. A rectangular embankment, ornamented with some old cannon, and portions of the adjoining moat, are all that remain of its defences, though at a private residence (Cliff House) there still exist an old gateway and a Norm. buttress. The keep stood within a triangular plot at the W. side of the present enclosure. In the centre of this green acre rises a column to the memory of Lord Nelson, who was made a freeman of the city in 1805. A suspension bridge, erected as a Jubilee memorial in 1897, here spans the river; and in close proximity are some public gardens, opened in 1893. In the meadows on the other side of the Wye may be observed some earthworks thrown up by the besiegers during the Civil War.

Within a stone's throw of the Castle Green stands the *Cathedral.* Though not comparable for size and dignity with some of its rivals, and spoilt though it is to some extent by injudicious restoration, Hereford Cathedral is none the less a church of remarkable architectural interest and merit. It owes its impressiveness chiefly to its simple and strong structural lines and to the massiveness of its general design. Its builders have made a generous but not too lavish use of their material, and have disposed of it to very good effect. The building is well balanced, and its mass is distributed without a too rigorous regard for symmetry, whilst its tendency to austereness is relieved by the judgment displayed in its ornamentation. It is an edifice of many periods ; but in spite of its obvious mixture of styles, its general aspect is harmonious. The native sandstone of which it is constructed, though ill-adapted for refined manipulation, is peculiarly rich in colour. The history of the fabric is long and chequered. There is little doubt that a church of some sort existed here in a very distant past. There are episcopal traditions going back to Celtic days ; but it was not until Archbishop Theodore in 679 determined to divide the Saxon diocese of Mercia into more manageable portions that the real story of the See commences. The territory of the Magesætas, which already formed a separate kingdom under Merewald, was constituted an independent bishopric. According to William of Malmesbury, Bishop Putta of Rochester was the first prelate to preside over the new diocese ; but any cathedral that he may have possessed was prob-



HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

ably of wood. It was the tragic fate of King Ethelbert in 792 that gave occasion for the building of the first stone cathedral. The Saxon Chronicle states with commendable brevity that Offa, King of the Mercians, in that year "commanded the head of King Aethelbert to be struck off". This curt statement, according to common repute, covers the tragedy of which some account is given on p. 244. Ethelbert's murder so outraged public sentiment that Offa was compelled to remove the dead King's body to Hereford, where, in expiation of his crime, he subsequently built a costly shrine over it. Milfrid, a successor, in 825 constructed, in further honour of the martyr, "an admirable stone church". Two centuries of wear and tear reduced this to ruin; and in 1030 it was rebuilt, probably on a more stately scale, by Bishop Aethelstan. This fabric, however, did not survive its builder, for in the year of his death (1056), it was destroyed by fire during an incursion of the Welsh; and it was not until the consecration of Bishop Robert de Lorraine in 1079 that a new cathedral rose from the ashes of the old one. It is his work, as finally completed by his successor Reynelm (1100), that forms the bulk of the building to-day. The various alterations which the structure has since undergone can be only very briefly summarized here.

In plan the church, which is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Ethelbert, is cruciform, with double transepts and a central tower, rising at the junction of the nave and choir. The main transepts, which are furnished with aisles or

chapels, project from the tower, and a second set, thrown out from behind the high altar, are united by a retro-choir, which forms an entrance to the Lady Chapel beyond. The latter externally appears to be a distinct building. The earliest portions of the main structure are the S. transept and the arcade and triforium of the choir (1079-1117). It is conjectured that in the early Norm. masonry of the S. transept there may actually be embodied some remnants of Aethelstan's original church ; but the choir, with its heavy wall-like piers, is certainly the work of Bishop Robert de Lorraine. The nave, with its huge cylindrical columns, is of rather later date (1110-48), and is the contribution of his successor. The rest of the fabric is an excellent illustration of the gradual steps by which our church builders found their way to a more skilful and economical handling of their material. Much lighter in structure than the nave is the retro-choir of the Trans. period (1186-99), which replaced the apsidal termination of Lorraine's choir ; and more delicate still is the beautifully modelled E.E. Lady Chapel (1220-40), with its clustered shafts and its quintet of lancets. Beneath the chapel is a groined and vaulted crypt of the same period, probably constructed as a burial place. At a later date the Norm. N. transept was reconstructed on Dec. lines ; and its richness and symmetry, in marked contrast to the plainness of the S. transept, now make it one of the most striking architectural features of the building. The Perp. style (1350-1485) in its early stages is characteristically represented in the spacious windows of the

S. transept and in Bishop Stanbury's chantry in the N. choir aisle. Its later phases are well illustrated by Bishop Audley's chantry (end of fifteenth century) in the Lady Chapel and by Bishop Booth's noble N. porch (beginning of sixteenth century). Externally, the most notable features of the cathedral are this handsome porch, the Dec. tower, with its profusion of ball-flower ornament, and the shapely outline of the Lady Chapel. Originally the nave was larger than it is at present, and carried a lofty W. tower. The latter fell in 1786, and overthrew in its fall two bays of the nave and the greater part of the Norm. triforium and clerestory. The calamity was a double one, for it not only destroyed the work of the Norm. builders, but led to an unhappy effort by Wyatt (1788-97) to replace it by a design of his own, which, so far as the triforium and clerestory are concerned, still remains to bear testimony to his incompetence. The W. front which Wyatt also put up was removed at the beginning of this century and a new one was substituted from plans by J. O. Scott (1902-8). The style adopted in it is the Dec. of the fourteenth century. Above the window (which is a memorial of Queen Victoria) is a representation of the Virgin and Child, whilst at the sides are St. Ethelbert (right) and St. Thomas of Hereford (left). In a gable between the doors is a figure of our Lord. Flanking the doors are Bishop Lorraine (right) and Bishop Booth (left), these being respectively the first and last of the great builders of the Cathedral. On the buttresses are Sts. David and George. The subjects of the two medallions are (1) the murder

of King Ethelbert, (2) Dean Croft preaching in the Cathedral, with two Puritan soldiers keeping guard over him.

The interior of the building will repay careful study. The features calling for notice are: (1) The large and quaintly carved Norm. font, exhibiting round the bowl some mutilated figures of the twelve apostles and supported at the base by lions. (2) The two transepts with their remarkable architectural contrasts, the S. transept, with the exception of its S. and W. windows and groining, being Norm., and the N. transept being early Dec. The latter contains a very beautiful triforium which atones for the rather awkwardly shaped arches below. In the S. transept may be seen a Norm. fireplace, the flue of which has been pierced to admit of the insertion of a later window. (3) The "gridiron" device for supporting the upper stages of the tower, of which the interior wall and the bell-chamber rest upon a series of piers bonded together by a horizontal stay, thus forming what Willis has called a "gigantic stone grating". (4) The Norm. arch of five orders at the E. end of the choir with the curiously interposed pier behind it, enclosing the modern reredos. (5) Sir G. Scott's florid bronze screen, which is said to have cost upwards of £3000. It secures much popular admiration, but was justly characterized by its designer as "too loud and self-assertive". The delicate Perp. workmanship of the chantries and the Dec. woodwork of the choir stalls and throne should be observed. The episcopal chair on the N. of the sanctuary is the one in which King

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL, THE NAVE

Stephen is said to have sat crowned (p. 30). It is believed to date from the twelfth century.

The monuments are exceedingly numerous, but they are mainly confined to the precincts of the choir, which might almost be said to preserve an episcopal register in stone, for there are no less than ten effigies of bishops reposing in recesses of uniform pattern beneath the windows of the choir aisles. The most remarkable memorials are the shrines of Bishop Aquablanca (1268) in the N. choir aisle, and that of Bishop Cantelupe (St. Thomas of Hereford, almost the last Englishman canonized before the Reformation) in the N. transept aisle. Aquablanca was notorious for his worldliness, though he is credited with having spent some of his gains on the erection of the beautiful N. transept, which encloses the shrine of his successor. His tomb, a charming bit of sculpture, is worthy of his artistic taste. Cantelupe was Provincial Grand Master of the Knights Templars; and his shrine is guarded by representatives of the Order. Lorraine's effigy on the S. side of the choir, and Reynelm's tomb in the N. aisle, keep green the memory of these two early master builders of the fabric. Bishop Giles de Breose (1216), a member of a powerful local family, lies, like Lorraine, in the choir, but on the opposite side. The effigy in the chapel of Bishop Stanbury is that of Bishop de Capella (1127); Stanbury's own effigy is opposite. In the Lady Chapel are two fourteenth century tombs, one being that of Johanna de Bohun, Countess of Hereford (1327), and the other that of Peter de Grandison in a coat of

mail and cyclas (1358). The nave contains few monuments, the most notable being those of Bishop Booth (1535), which is protected by a grille of iron-work, and of Sir W. R. Pembridge (1375), who is figured in armour with jupon and camail. There are several brasses in the choir aisles; and elsewhere are some slabs which have been despoiled of their metal. Bishop Cantelupe's shrine also exhibits a matrix from which a brass has evidently been stripped. It is said that as many as 200 brasses were destroyed by the Parliamentary soldiery during the Civil War. Some of the windows retain specimens of fourteenth century glass, namely one above the entry to the cloisters, one in the S. choir aisle, one at the E. end of the N. choir aisle, and one in the Lady chapel. The last, which is the finest, originally belonged to St. Peter's Church (mentioned below). A remarkable Map of the World (thirteenth century), one of the most cherished treasures of the cathedral and one of the earliest maps in existence, hangs in a case on the E. wall of the S. transept. The organ in the choir incorporates an ancient instrument made by Renatus Harris and presented to the church by King Charles II.

The Cathedral precincts are of more than ordinary interest. Two cloisters of early Perp. work (1492-1502) run from the S. of the Cathedral. The one serves to connect the Bishop's Palace with the church, and also gives access to a library containing some chained books, certain valuable MSS., a reliquary, and a fourteenth century chalice and paten, taken from the tomb of Bishop Swinfield

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL, THE BISHOP'S CLOISTER

1316). The other leads to the Vicars' College, the residence of the Vicars Choral. Between these two cloisters are a few fragments of the demolished Chapter House, built about 1346, which unfortunately was reduced to ruin during the siege of the city by the Parliamentary forces in 1643, and was finally dismantled for the repair of the Bishop's Palace. Much other injury was done to the Cathedral and its monuments during the occupation of the city by the Roundheads.

The Episcopal Palace stands on the S. of the Cathedral and overlooks the river. It is almost entirely constructed out of old material, and contains some good chambers. The Deanery and three of the Canons' residences—all modern houses—are on the N.E. and N., and with the church itself form a quadrangle enclosing the Cathedral green. The fourth of the Canons' houses is in Broad Street. A quaint and very narrow alley runs from the close to St. Peter's Street, and is worth a casual glance. The Cathedral Grammar School, likewise in the neighbourhood of the Cathedral, is an ancient institution housed in a modern building. It was endowed in 1384 by Bishop Gilbert for the free education of poor children, but its trust was remodelled in 1668.

Hereford once possessed, in addition to the Cathedral, a Collegiate church, *St. Peter's*, to which was attached a body of secular canons founded before 1084 by Walter de Lacy. It was, however, later on amalgamated with the Benedictine monastery of St. Guthlac, and bestowed in 1101 on the Abbey of Gloucester. The church still sur-

vives ; but the building, with the exception of the tower, chancel, and N. wall of the nave, has been reconstructed. Nevertheless it retains its oak stalls and misericordes ; and at the E. end of the N. aisle are also a piscina, two ambries, and an image niche. The chancel screen is modern. A much more interesting church from an antiquarian point of view is *All Saints'*, which, like St. Peter's, carries a spire. It stands in a rather cramped situation, but is fairly roomy within, and has its full complement of nave, aisles, and chancel, with a tower rising at the W. end of the N. aisle. The interior shows much evidence of reconstruction at various periods. The columns of the present arcade are cylindrical, but the removal of some of the facing stones near the chancel arch has disclosed a group of clustered columns which formed the respond of an earlier arcade. In the sanctuary (on the S. side of which may be traced the outline of some Norm. windows) there is a set of exceedingly fine oak stalls, with elaborate canopies and misericordes. The plain stalls in the presbytery also retain their misericordes. These were intended for the brethren of the Hospital of St. Antony at Vienne, to which body the church was assigned by Henry III., and of which there was a small branch here. The handsome timber roofs of Perp. date merit notice ; and there is some woodwork of Jacobean type in the pulpit and reredos. There is a Dec. piscina in good preservation in the N. chapel, and another in a mutilated condition in the chancel. A remarkable library of chained books, 256 in number, will be found in the vestry to the S. of the chancel.

HEREFORD, ALL SAINTS CHURCH, THE STALLS

They were bequeathed by Wm. Brewster (d. 1715), and narrowly escaped crossing the Atlantic, the sale of them to an American being only stopped in time by the Dean and Chapter of Windsor, the patrons of the living. It was in this church that David Garrick was baptized in 1716.

Besides the monastery of St. Guthlac (previously alluded to) three Habitations of Friars existed in the city. All traces of two of these have disappeared, though the sites they occupied are known. Some scanty remains of the Dominican Friary, however, still survive in Widemarsh Street. The House was founded in the reign of Edward III., and both the King and the Black Prince are said to have been present at its dedication. The little heap of ruins includes portions of the domestic buildings. The church has gone, but the Preaching Cross exists, and is still in excellent preservation. It is an hexagonal structure with cinquefoiled apertures, raised upon a flight of steps and surmounted by a cross. Standing between the ruins and the street is the *Coningsby Hospital*, a modest quadrangular building, with a chapel. It was founded by Sir Thos. Coningsby in 1614 for "two of the most valuable, though generally the most neglected, characters in Society—the worn-out soldier and the superannuated faithful servant". The building is said to have been constructed out of the remains of the dismantled Friary, though the actual site was formerly occupied by the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, who in their turn had displaced a Preceptory of Knights Templars. The pensioners on Sundays used to wear scarlet coats

and trousers until quite recently; but they are now dressed in clothes of khaki colour. Another hospital of early origin is the *Giles Hospital* in St. Owen's Street, consisting of five houses and a chapel. The foundation goes back to 1290, but it was re-established in 1770. The chapel was restored in 1682. Besides these noteworthy charitable institutions there are several other seventeenth century hospitals in different parts of the city, *viz.* Williams' (1601) in St. Owen's Street; Trinity or Kerry's (1607) in Commercial Road; Lingen's (1609) in Whitecross Road; Weaver's (1641), near Bewell Street; Price's (1665) and Symonds' (1695) in Widemarsh Street. Almost a mile from the centre of the city, on the Hay road, is a flight of steps surmounted by a modern cross on a traceried base. It is known as the *White Cross*, and the base forms part of a cross erected by Bishop Lewis Charlton in 1347 as a thankoffering for the disappearance of the plague. It is said to mark the spot to which the market was transferred during the ravages of the epidemic.

Hereford was the birthplace of both Nell Gwyn (1650) and David Garrick (1717). A brass plate on the wall of the Bishop's Garden overhanging Gwynne Street now indicates where the house stood in which Charles II.'s mistress was born. Garrick's birthplace—a house at the corner of Widemarsh and Maylord Streets—has become a tavern (the Raven Inn). The actor's father is said by Duncumb to have been a French refugee who obtained a commission in a troop of horse and was

HEREFORD, THE PREACHING CROSS

emporarily quartered in the city. Hereford also has associations with Mrs. Siddons, Kemble, and David Cox (father and son).

Hereford, Little, a parish in the extreme N. of the county, on the borders of Worcestershire and Salop. The church, which is close to Easton Court station on the Tenbury line, has a massive tower, and preserves several interesting features. There are W. and S. recessed doorways ; and some of the windows are Norm. in character. The large chancel is entered by a narrow arch, within which is the rood-loft stairway. Above the arch there is a recess with a (presumably modern) cross ; and in the wall there is visible the piscina for the rood-loft altar (cp. *Wigmore*). In the chancel, beside the usual piscina, there are triple sedilia (cp. *Madley*). In the N. chancel wall and S. nave wall are three floriated recesses, empty. The font, plain in design, is Norm. There are two brasses in memory of John Griffiths, a precentor of Hereford Cathedral (who died in 1745), and members of his family. *Easton Court* is a modern mansion.

Hoarwithy, a village 6 miles N.W. of Ross and 2½ miles north of Fawley station. It is most picturesquely placed near the Wye, which is here spanned by a bridge (toll ½d.) commanding a charming view. The church is a modern building, constructed in the Venetian style. The entrance is approached along a piazza, extending the whole length of the building. A very large sum of money was spent upon it by a former rector (Preb. W. Poole) ; but though the marble and other materials used in it are very ornate, and the

decoration extremely rich, the fabric, in style and appearance, seems rather out of keeping with its rural surroundings.

Holmer, a parish 2 miles N. of Hereford, on the Leominster road. The church is notable for having a detached tower, which supports a half-timbered belfry constructed in the sixteenth century. One of its bells has the inscription, *God bless our noble King James*, and the date 1609; and another has a couplet of verse and the date 1626. The body of the church, which has no aisles, seems to be E.E.; the windows have unusually wide splays. The roof and the piscina deserve attention. The base of the churchyard cross has the usual niche.

Holm Lacy, a parish 5 miles S.E. of Hereford (with a station on the Ross line), beautifully situated in a level plain commanded by hills and bounded on one side by the Wye. The place derives its distinctive title from Walter de Lacy, a Norman who was granted much land in the county at the Conquest. Premonstratensians are said to have had a house here, the only one which the Order possessed in the county. The church (dedicated to St. Cuthbert) is a rather curious structure, with a very low roof, no chancel arch, and an arcade of six bays (one arch being exceptionally wide). There are piscinas in the chancel (the floor of which seems to have been raised) and in the S. aisle (the latter having a square seat near it). In a N. chapel are five old stalls and misericordes; and in the E. window are some fragments of ancient glass. The building contains a number of

monuments of the Scudamore family, the former owners of Holm Lacy Court: the most noteworthy are those of John Scudamore (*temp.* Henry VIII.), James Scudamore (d. 1668), and Mary Scudamore Stanhope (d. 1820). The Scudamores settled here in the fourteenth century, and the family was ennobled in the seventeenth century; but in the eighteenth century the line ended in daughters, and the estate passed by marriage to the Fitzroys and the Stanhopes. It changed hands by purchase, for the first time (it is said) since the Conquest, in 1909. The Court is a Palladian mansion erected in the seventeenth century; is built in the shape of an *H;* and contains carvings by Grinling Gibbons, and paintings by Holbein, Vandyck, and Lely. Pope is said to have written his *Man of Ross* here. In the park are some fine oaks; and near the vicarage is a pear tree, the produce of which (according to records dated 1776) yielded from 14 to 16 hogsheads of perry. The explanation of its productiveness seems to be that the owner, observing that a branch, accidentally broken but not detached, had taken root in the ground, artificially induced other branches to do the same; so that the tree presented the appearance of an Indian banyan.

Hope Mansell, a secluded parish, 5 miles S.E. from Ross, lying at the end of a narrow valley behind Penyard Hill. The second part of the name is a corruption of the Norman-French *Maloisel*, which, according to Canon Bannister, occurs in documents of the thirteenth century. The church (St. Michael) is a small building of little interest. The only peculiarities that it exhibits are the posi-

tion of the chancel, which is not in line with the nave, and a small lancet window curiously placed above the rather low chancel arch, as if intended to give additional light to a now demolished rood-loft. In the sanctuary is a trefoiled piscina.

Hope-under-Dinmore, a parish 3 miles S. of Leominster. The church (St. Mary the Virgin) was restored in 1879, but retains one or two interesting features. In a kind of N. chapel there is a mural monument designed by Roubillac, with three figures—a man in a lawyer's robe and wig, a woman, and a child. There is no visible inscription on it, but it is said to be in memory of Sir T. Coningsby, the founder of a hospital at Hereford (p. 165), who was buried here in 1652. On the opposite wall is a slab with the incised figures of a man and his wife (the former in armour) and their seven children. The date is unfortunately erased. The best thing in the church is the Dec. font, with the representation of an apostle on each of its eight sides. About ½ mile on the way to Bodenham, on the right of the road, is *Hampton Court*, a castellated mansion in an extensive park. The building is said to have been begun by Henry IV., when Earl of Hereford, and finished by Sir Rowland Leinthall, to whom Henry gave it, and who met the expenditure which it involved out of the ransom that he received for prisoners taken in the French wars of Henry V. It has a quadrangular court, with an entrance tower (part, it is said, of the original structure) in the centre of the front, and smaller towers at the angles. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it was the resi-

dence of the Coningsbys. Among the paintings contained in it are works by Holbein, Kneller, Lely, and Reynolds. A distinguished visitor to the Court was William III., and the room which he occupied is still kept in the state in which it then was.

How Caple, a parish 3 miles E. of Fawley station, on the Hereford and Ross line. The name perhaps means "Hugh's chapel". The church, which is close to How Caple Court, is charmingly situated on high ground above the Wye, with a beautifully wooded hill opposite. It is not a building of great interest. There is a seventeenth century screen, most incongruously surmounted by the contemporary national escutcheon, which is said to be of foreign workmanship, and carved out of a single block of oak. In the chancel are two image brackets and a small piscina. On the S. is a large featureless chapel. The tower is stated to have been built about 1693, by Sir W. Gregory, Speaker of the House of Commons. In the churchyard is the niched base of the old cross.

Humber, a parish 3 miles S.E. of Leominster. The church (St. Mary) has an unusually long chancel, which retains its piscina, and a large image bracket placed between the two lights of the E. end. These windows seem to be E.E. In the nave is a Jacobean pulpit (restored), and a font of which the basin is thought to be Norm. At *Risbury*, a hamlet 1 mile S.E., is a camp believed to be one of the strongest in Herefordshire, in spite of the fact that, unlike most similar fortifications, it is situated in a valley. It is oblong in shape,

with rounded corners, and entrances on the E. and W. sides. The innermost rampart, enclosing 8 acres, is 12 to 15 feet high on the inside, and from 16 to 27 feet on the outside. Excavations have shown that the embankment of earth contains within it a dry-built wall. Outside this earthwork there are additional ramparts ; and the whole area is calculated to be 25 acres.

Huntington (1), a parish 1½ miles N.W. from Hereford, adjoining the Hereford and Weobley road. The church has been rebuilt, and is of no interest.

Huntington (2), a parish on the extreme western verge of the county, near the Radnorshire border, 4 miles S.W. of Kington. It possesses a diminutive church reached through a farmyard ; and, though recently restored, it is of twelfth century origin. It preserves two Norm. lights on the N. side, a plain octagonal font, and some ancient oak benches, hewn by the axe, and fastened by wooden dowels (not nails). Not far from the church is the site of a castle, protected on the N. by a steep ravine. It seems to have consisted of a curtain wall, with a keep at one angle of the enclosed court ; and the defences were still further strengthened by a moat, beyond which there was probably an outer court. Of the masonry of the fortifications nothing remains save a couple of isolated fragments. It must have been a border stronghold of no great extent, similar to Clifford (p. 113), and designed, like the latter, to ward off the attacks of the Welsh. The date of its erection is unknown, but in the reign of Henry III. it is mentioned as

being in the possession of William de Breose, Lord of Brecknock.

Kenchester, a parish at the foot of Credenhill, 5 miles W.N.W. from Hereford. It is notable as the site of the most important of the three Roman stations in the county. This was the Roman city known as *Magna*. It is best reached from Hereford by following the Hay road for $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and then turning to the right. The precise form of the original name is difficult to determine, for it only occurs in the oblique case *Magnis*, so that it may have been *Magni*. If *Magna* be correct, it doubtless stands (as Prof. Haverfield thinks) for *Magna Castra*. In plan the city appears to have been an irregular hexagon, and to have covered 17 acres. It was surrounded by a wall, and possessed four gates. Owing possibly to the accumulation of rubbish, the site stands considerably higher than the adjacent fields. It is deplorable that there is practically nothing to be seen of the remains above ground. In the garden of a cottage called "The Walls," a small portion of the rampart of the town can be observed; but that is all. In dry weather marks of the foundations of some buildings are said to be discernible in the adjoining field. So far, nothing very important has been unearthed on the spot; but what little has come to light indicates that the place was a residential town, and not merely a military station. Most of the finds are housed in the Hereford Museum (p. 153), and include pavements, hypocausts, glass, pottery, articles of personal adornment, and such things as the miscellaneous population of a town might possess. One inter-

esting discovery was that of an oculist's stamp, with the name of *Ariovistus*, and a description of the salve that he sold, upon it. The mediæval church, dedicated to St. Michael, and reached by a path near the post-office, is very small. The chancel is marked off from the rest of the building by a timber arch. There are two deeply splayed Norm. lights, and the old roof-beams are noteworthy ; but the most interesting feature is the font, consisting of part of a Roman column (presumably obtained from the site of the city), which has had its upper surface hollowed to form the bowl.

Kenderchurch, a parish near Pontrilas station. The first part of the name is thought to be a corruption of Gynidr, a Celtic saint. The church, (St. Mary), which stands in a conspicuous situation on the summit of a small hill, is ascribed to the fourteenth century, and contains a fifteenth century oak screen and a good roof. In the churchyard is a restored cross.

Kentchurch, a parish 2 miles S.E. of Pontrilas station, on the border of Monmouthshire. The name, originally Keynchurch, preserves the memory of St. Keyna, who is also associated with Keynsham, near Bristol, and whose well still exists near St. Neot's. The parish church, dedicated to St. Mary, has been rebuilt (1859), but retains a dismantled alabaster monument of the Scudamores (early seventeenth century), which belonged to an earlier structure. The figures are those of John Scudamore (d. 1616) and his wife Amy, with their children. The churchyard still has the base of the old cross. The neighbouring Court, in an

extensive park, is a comparatively modern mansion built by Nash in 1824, but it incorporates a round tower belonging to a building early enough to be mentioned by Leland, which was the seat of the elder, but untitled, branch of the Scudamore family. A closet in a bedroom within this tower is said to have once been the hiding place of Owain Glyndwr, one of whose daughters, Alice, was the wife of John Scudamore. The park, which was once a deer-chase belonging to the Knights Hospitallers, covers the N.W. slope of Garway Hill.

Kilpeck, a parish 8 or 9 miles S.W. of Hereford (nearest station St. Devereux, ½ mile). The first part of the name probably comes from the Latin *cella* (see p. 67); the second is a corruption of Peddig or Pedec. The place has both military and monastic associations, though little of its castle and nothing of its priory remain. It is still, however, famed for its church (dedicated to a Welsh saint, David), which, carefully restored, is an extraordinary example of Norm. work under the influence of Celtic (perhaps Irish) art. It merits close inspection both externally and internally. On the outside note the extensive series of quaint corbels running round the building, and the brackets at the W. end, in the shape of monsters' snouts. The S. door exhibits the ornamental interlaced carving generally reminiscent of Celtic craftsmanship. The tympanum displays a tree, though opinions differ as to the particular significance to be attached to the symbolism. On the left jamb should be observed two figures of warriors clad in caps, vests, and trews fastened by girdles round their waists

(cp. *Shobdon*, p. 238). There is a richly decorated W. window, showing the same Celtic plaited work that is visible elsewhere. Within, the ornamentation is equally elaborate. There are two chancel arches, the space between forming a kind of presbytery. On each of the piers of one of these arches are three male figures: the uppermost pair carry a book and a cross; the intermediate a book and a key, and the lowest a book and (perhaps) an *aspergillum*. The E. end is apsidal (a rare feature in this county, though cp. *Peterchurch*), and the chancel roof is vaulted and groined. The windows of the building are Norm.; but the priest's door seems to be E.E. The font is very large, and is supported on four Norm. pillars encircling a central stem. The capitals of the four exterior columns are of what Mr. F. Bond calls the Corinthianesque type. Preserved in the chancel is a holy water stoup of most unusual size and shape: the bowl appears to be clasped by arms. The church is thought to owe its origin to Hugh Fitz Norman, in the twelfth century, who gave it to the monks of St. Peter at Gloucester.

Of the castle, which is close to the church, little remains but earthworks. Two moats are easily traced, the inner one surrounding a mound (25 feet by 40) upon which William Fitz Norman (to whom the manor was granted at the Conquest, and who was the father of the Hugh Fitz Norman mentioned above) probably built a wooden fort. This was at a later date replaced by a polygonal shell keep, of which two fragmentary walls are the sole surviving remnants. The stone castle was

KILPECK CHURCH

KILPECK CHURCH, DETAIL OF THE SOUTH DOOR

built later than the church ; but is said to have been in a ruinous state as early as Edward I.'s time. The plan of the fortress included, beside the keep, a basement court on the E., an outer court on the S., and a third court on the W. The walls of the keep are about 6 feet thick, and two fireplaces will be observed in them. The priory, in origin contemporary with the church, and subordinate to the Abbey at Gloucester, was suppressed between the years 1422 and 1448. Some outhouses belonging to a farm are pointed out as occupying the site ; and doubtless portions of the masonry have been turned to account in constructing the later buildings.

Kimbolton, a parish 2½ miles N.E. of Leominster. Its name is supposed to be derived from Cynebald, a descendant of the kings of Mercia (*temp.* Edward the Confessor). The church (St. James the Less), which occupies an elevated position, remote from the village, was restored in 1875. It has a shingled broach spire, and contains a Norm. E. window and a second Norm. light on the N. of the chancel. At the back of the choir stalls there is some woodwork covered with linen-pattern carving. A roomy S. chapel preserves its piscina. Both the arch leading into this chapel and the chancel arch are said to be modern. About 1½ miles S.E. is *Bach* (pronounced Bayche) *Camp*, with an area of 10 acres. It is oval in shape, and the defences are strongest on the N. and N.W., which are the most accessible sides. On the N.W. side the fosse is unusually wide, and it has been suggested that it was intended to be occupied by the huts of the camp's defenders.

King's Caple, a parish situated on elevated ground above the left bank of the Wye: nearest station Fawley, 2 miles, on the Hereford and Ross line. It has been thought that the name is connected with certain "royal dues" paid by the incumbent. The church has a low tower and slender spire, and contains little of interest; but observe (1) the fifteenth century S. porch (groined); (2) a piscina on the sill of a S. window; (3) a second piscina in a N. chapel. The most noteworthy object is in the churchyard, where the cross preserves its original base and head, though the shaft is modern. The head is carved on the W. side with the Crucifixion, and on the E. with the Virgin and Child (the figures being much mutilated). A small mound, on the S. of the church, looks as if it might be a Norman *motte*.

Kingsland (see p. 70), a pleasant-looking village of considerable size, 5 miles W.N.W. of Leominster. The church (St. Michael), dating from the reign of Edward I., is said to have been built by Edmund Mortimer, who died in 1304 from a wound received in a skirmish at Builth, and who, before his death, made his younger son, Walter, rector of Kingsland. It has an unusually ornate tower, the buttresses being panelled, and the external doorway having a foliated arch. The most interesting feature is a curious little chamber on the E. side of the N. porch. This, which is lighted by Dec. windows, has a raised floor at the E. end (as though for an altar); whilst cut into the wall of the church is a canopied recess, under which is a stone hollowed into the shape of the human figure.

At the back of the recess is a window looking into the church. The chamber is popularly known as the Volker chapel (the name is variously spelt), and is generally described as the cell of a recluse, although it looks more like a chantry. It seems to be of fourteenth century date. The interior of the church does not contain much that is noteworthy, but account should be taken of the piscina and sedilia in the chancel, a second piscina and ambry in the S. aisle, and the ancient glass in the E. and in one of the S. windows of the chancel. The octagonal font lacks distinction. Over the vestry there was formerly a priest's chamber ; and outside of it is a recess, probably for a sculptured slab.

Between the church and the vicarage is a large moated mound. Like other similar mounds, it was doubtless defended by a wooden stockade ; and besides the moat at its foot, there is a second moat some distance away. It has been thought that there were three courts, but their lines are not easily traced. The site is associated with the name of Merewald, a King of Mercia in the seventh century, who is supposed to have had a residence here. About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.W. of the village, at a point where two roads divide, is a low obelisk erected in 1799 to perpetuate (as an inscription declares) "the memory of an obstinate, bloody, and decisive battle fought near this spot in the civil wars between the ambitious houses of York and Lancaster on the second day of February, 1460". The battle takes its title of *Mortimer's Cross* from the cross-road, about a mile away. The leader of the Yorkist force was Edward Mortimer, Earl of March ; whilst the Lancastrians

(the party of King Henry VI.) were commanded by Jasper, Earl of Pembroke, and others. The Yorkists were victorious, and the Earl of March became Edward IV. Though a descendant of the Mortimers, it was, of course, as a Plantagenet, through his ancestress Philippa, grand-daughter of Edward III. (p. 31), that he had a claim to the English crown. Near the cross-road stands an aged oak, now almost split in two, round which the battle is said to have raged.

King's Pyon, a village in a hollow, 8 miles N.W. of Hereford. The church, which overlooks the village, is of more antiquarian than architectural interest. Its plan is cruciform, but the N. transept appears to have been added, for the sake of symmetry, in 1872. It retains a Norm. S. doorway, a good pointed Trans. chancel arch, and some lancet windows of the same or a little later period. Under a Dec. canopy in the S. transept (which is entered by a double archway supported on a cylindrical column) are the alabaster effigies of a knight and his lady (fourteenth century), the figure of the former being much mutilated. The neck and shoulders of the knight are protected by the camail, and he is hip-belted. The lady wears a square-topped headdress. The black-and-white roofs of the nave and S. transept of the church, and the ancient font, deserve notice. At *Buttas* is an ornamented timber pigeon-house (1632).

Kingstone, a village about 6 miles W.S.W. of Hereford. It has a spacious church, with a Trans. Norm. arcade on the N., the columns, cylindrical in shape, resting on square bases, and being crowned

KING'S PYON BUTTAS PIGEON HOUSE

with fluted capitals. In the N. wall there is an empty recess ; and fixed against the wall is a slab bearing a foliated cross and dated 1689. What is now the vestry was once a chapel, and preserves a piscina. Note (1) the old parish chest, hollowed out of a tree trunk, (2) the very curious font. The churchyard retains the base of the old cross.

KINGTON, a small town on the river Arrow, in the N.W. of the county, lying at the foot of Hergest[1] Ridge and Bradnor Hill, which shelter it on the W. and N. It has a station on the line between Leominster and New Radnor. The population of the urban district is 1819 ; of the urban and rural districts together, 2651. The place (which is said to derive its name from King Edward the Confessor) is not in itself particularly notable, for the narrowness of some of its streets is not redeemed (as at Leominster) by the survival of half-timbered houses (though there is a picturesque example of such near the bridge), whilst it has few public buildings of importance, with the exception of its church and grammar school. But the neighbourhood is extremely picturesque, and the situation of the town on the borders of Wales renders it a convenient centre for reaching various attractive localities in that country. The scenery along the road to Radnor recalls parts of the Wye valley, though it lacks the charm of a river. Originally the town belonged to the Welsh princes of Brecknock, but was taken from them by Earl Harold in 1055.

[1] Pronounced Hargest (with a hard *g*).

The most interesting building in the place is the church (St. Mary), which stands on a hill above the town. The tower, surmounted by a modern shingled spire, rises on the S. side, and is of Norm. date. It is not at present detached, but probably was so originally, for it has been plausibly conjectured that it was constructed by the Normans as a separate belfry by the side of an existing Saxon church ; and that when the Saxon structure was replaced by a better one, the tower was incorporated in the new church. The round-headed doorway which now leads from it into the church was clearly once an external entrance (note the exceptional thickness of the wall and the holes for the bar). The only other relic of Norm. times is the font. The church now has three arcades, so that it is of considerable breadth, but the two N. aisles are modern. The clerestory above the S. arcade is also modern, dating from 1861. The most striking architectural feature in the building is the chancel, which is E.E., and dates from the time of Henry III., having been erected (it is thought) between 1220 and 1240. There are three lancets at the E. end, a row of six on the N., and doubtless formerly the same number on the S., but of the latter group only one survives. The others were destroyed when the Vaughan chapel was erected. This is a Dec. addition of early fourteenth century date, as may be inferred from two of the windows, a third being a subsequent Perp. insertion. The monument which it contains belongs to a later period than the chapel, and bears the alabaster figures of Thomas Vaughan and his wife. The

former, who wears armour of the fifteenth century (note the *pauldrons* protecting the shoulders and the *tuilles* covering the front of the hips), was killed at Banbury in 1469. His wife, who is dressed in a long robe girt about the waist, was known as Ellen Gethin ("Ellen the Terrible"), and was a lady of very masculine character. Her favourite brother having been murdered by her cousin, John Vaughan of Tretower (in Breconshire), she attended, with bow and arrows, an archery meeting where John Vaughan was present, and when the opportunity offered, directed a shaft at his heart. The effigies of both husband and wife have undergone extensive repairs. The body of the church dates from the Dec. period (and it still retains *in situ* the hooks for the hinges supporting the shutters which at that time closed the windows against the weather), but it has been considerably reconstructed since then. The S. aisle is original, though its roof has been lowered to allow the addition of clerestory windows. There was once a corresponding lean-to aisle on the N. (as may be seen from the string-course above the arcade); but this was replaced in the nineteenth century by a double aisle, which was carried eastwards past the chancel arch. The alteration weakened the latter, which in consequence had to be strengthened by an internal buttress. Three piscinas are preserved in the church: one is in the Vaughan chapel; a second in the S. aisle (for the altar which existed at the E. end of the aisle, before the chapel was built), with a little cinque-foiled niche of doubtful significance near it; and a third in the chancel, with an ambry in the opposite

wall. Externally under the E. gable will be observed the bell-cot for the *sanctus* bell.

The Grammar School is interesting mainly because of its founder, for it was endowed in 1622 by Margaret, Lady Hawkins, a daughter of one of the Vaughans of Hergest Court, and the widow of Sir John Hawkins, the famous Elizabethan seaman. The original building is said to have been designed by John Abel (p. 72). A portrait of the foundress hangs in the schoolroom.

Near the banks of the Arrow, on the way to Hay, is *Hergest Court*, now a farm, but once the residence of the Vaughans. It is of fifteenth century date. Near it, on the opposite side of the road, is Castle Twt, a small *motte*. Other antiquities in the vicinity of the town, of interest to the archæologist, are the traces of Offa's Dyke near Titley and Lyonshall (see pp. 206, 249), and the remains of the castle at Huntington (p. 172). The scenery around Kington combines some of the most characteristic features of both English and Welsh landscapes ; and *Bradnor Hill* (1284 feet) and *Hergest Ridge* (1389 feet) command extensive prospects.

Kinnersley (*i.e.* "Cyneheard's ley"), a parish 7 miles S. of Kington, with a station on the Hereford and Hay line. The church (dedicated to St. James) was originally Norm. (as shown by the blocked door at the W. end), but has what is thought to be a thirteenth century tower with a saddleback roof. The interior of the building has been lavishly decorated by a recent incumbent, and presents a remarkable display of woodwork.

The figures on the reredos are very curious ; and the panels in the pulpit deserve notice. In the chancel is a large seventeenth century monument of the Smalman family. The father and mother are represented kneeling, and their eight children, each duly labelled, are depicted below. There is also at the W. end of the church a mural monument to dame Ann Morgan, wife of Sir John Morgan. There are piscinas in the S. and N. aisles and in the chancel, the last with an ambry opposite. Eastward of the church is a large mansion, dating from James I.'s time, which embodies portions of a much earlier castle, of obscure origin and date.

Kinsham, a hamlet in the N.W. of the county, near the upper waters of the Lugg, 3 miles E. of Presteigne. The church, which lacks a chancel arch, has on the N. side of the nave a small square-headed window, wrongly described as a leper's window. Note the piscina, and, on the floor, an old altar slab. At Kinsham Court, once the residence of the family of Miss Florence Nightingale, Lord Byron is said to have stayed. It was through Kinsham Dingle that the Lancastrian fugitives, after their rout at Mortimer's Cross (p. 180), are believed to have directed their flight.

Knill, a small parish 4 miles S. of Presteigne, situated amid charming scenery. The church (St. Michael) lies a little distance off the road joining New Radnor and Presteigne, and is of slight interest. It preserves, however, a Norm. window in the N. chancel wall ; and the early octagonal font has some rather unusual carving on its panels.

The three post-Reformation bells have inscriptions. The churchyard cross retains its niched head. Near the church is Knill Court, a many-gabled, half-timbered mansion, which has apparently been much restored. The oldest portions of the building are supposed to go back to Edward II.'s time; but it was enlarged in 1561.

Laysters, a hamlet 5 miles N.E. of Leominster, on the road to Tenbury, situated on very high ground. The church (St. Andrew), which has no chancel arch, preserves a Norm. doorway and font-bowl, and a fourteenth century roof. Two of the three bells are said to be of pre-Reformation date. A ¼ mile E. of the church, on the right of the road to Tenbury, is a stone associated with the memory of Wordsworth, and bearing the initials of the poet and his wife. S. of the church is a low circular mound, which is probably a Norm. *motte* in origin.

Lea, a village 4 miles S.E. of Ross, and close to Micheldean Road station. The church (St. John the Baptist), which is in the diocese of Gloucester, has a small and slender broach spire, and is of comparatively slight interest. Still, note (1) the quaint faces on the capitals of the arcade piers; (2) the fine oak chest; (3) the curious and most unecclesiastical-looking font, said to be of Italian origin (a gift to the church); (4) the modern painting on the N. wall of the aisle. The vestry seems to have once been a chapel: observe the ambry, and a stair in the wall (perhaps connected with the rood-loft by a gangway across the aisle).

Ledbury, a town on the E. side of the county,

near the spot where Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, and Worcestershire join. The place, which probably derives its name from the Leddon, a stream in its vicinity, that eventually falls into the Severn just above Gloucester, stands on the lower slopes of a ridge running parallel to the Malvern Hills, though of much less elevation. Its main street is traversed by the road from Bromyard to Newent and Gloucester, and is intersected by the road from Malvern to Ross ; and its situation is conveniently central in respect of the three county towns, Hereford, Gloucester, and Worcester, from each of which it is distant about 16 miles. It has a station on the G.W.R. line from Bristol and South Wales to Birmingham ; whilst a branch line connects it with Gloucester. In 1911 the population of the urban district was 3358, and of the ecclesiastical parish 4165.

Ledbury has witnessed a little history, for in 1646 it was the scene of a smart engagement between Prince Rupert and a small Parliamentary force, in which the Prince was successful. It was once important enough to have two members of Parliament, but relinquished the privilege in the reign of Edward I. Its chief trade used to be cloth making. It wears an aspect of picturesque antiquity by reason of its seventeenth century Market House, and its numerous timber-fronted dwellings. The Market House is a half-timbered structure, standing on sixteen pillars of chestnut wood. Originally the upper part was used for storing corn, wool, and other commodities ; but it now serves for the holding of meetings. Not far

from it is *St. Katharine's Hospital.* This is an almshouse which was originally founded in the thirteenth century, though the chapel is the only part of the existing building which belongs to that early date. The institution owes its existence to Bishop Ffolliott (1232), and was designed for only twelve persons. It was re-founded in 1580 by Queen Elizabeth, and has undergone alterations since. At present its inmates number 24 (mostly women). The chapel is lofty and spacious but only a portion of it is used for divine worship. Note within (1) the roof—seemingly seventeenth century, (2) the stoup near the door, (3) the old glass in the E. window, (4) the clock, dating from 1642 (the weights of which are supported by a chain that runs along a wooden channel as far as the W. end of the chapel). West of the chapel, but under the same roof, are the old kitchens. The existing rooms for the aged people were built in the nineteenth century, the block on the left of the entrance dating from 1822, that on the right from 1866. Of the private residences in the town which are noteworthy for their antiquity, their picturesque gables, and their quaint carvings, the most conspicuous are, (1) Ledbury Park, the mansion of Lord Biddulph, built in 1590—a most charming example of the style of architecture which it illustrates; (2) the "Feathers" hotel; (3) a house at the corner of New Street (with the front supported on wooden pillars standing upon stone bases); (4) the "Old Talbot" inn, further down New Street, containing a panelled room dated 1596; (5) the Church House, near the churchyard

LEDBURY, THE MARKET HOUSE

gates ; (6) a cottage in Bye Street (thought to have once formed part of a palace belonging to the bishops of Hereford). There is a modern library and reading-room, surmounted by a clock tower, which is associated with the memory of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, whose early home was in the neighbourhood (p. 116).

Of equal interest with the ancient buildings just described, and in part, at least, much exceeding them in antiquity, is the parish church (dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels). It has an exceptionally wide nave and side aisles ; whilst the N. porch, with the adjacent vestry, when viewed externally from the W., presents the appearance of an additional aisle. The tower, like that of several other churches in the county (see p. 55), is detached from the rest of the fabric. It has an E.E. base, and is crowned by a Dec. spire, 202 feet high. Of the church itself the nucleus is Norm. ; note as evidence (1) in the chancel the arcade (with its short round pillars superimposed on tall square bases) and windows ; (2) in the nave the responds and bases of the arcade piers ; (3) the W. doors (a small one adjoining the large one is only visible internally) and pinnacles, and the buttresses at both the W. and E. ends. The original Norm. church probably had lean-to aisles. The N. porch is E.E. ; one of the jambs of the door still bears the consecration cross. Above the porch are two rooms, thought to have been intended for a priest and sacristan. Of the existing aisles the N. has rather earlier features than the S. : contrast the geometrical Dec. W. window of the former with the more flowing lines

of the corresponding window in the latter. The pillars of the N. arcade differ from those of the S., and are too slight in proportion to their height. Architecturally the gem of the church is the large N. chapel (known as St. Katharine's), a very ornate Dec. building (note the profusion of ball-flower ornament), which is supposed to have been intended as a chapter-house, but is now used as a baptistery. In one of the windows are some fragments of ancient glass; but its most interesting possession is the effigy of an ecclesiastic, dating from the fourteenth century. It is in excellent preservation, and displays the eucharistic vestments of the time: the amice (folded round the neck), the chasuble (which was the external robe), the alb (worn under the chasuble), and the cassock (worn beneath the alb, the sleeves only being visible). The stole is over the alb and under the chasuble; and the maniple is carried on the arm. There are some other objects of interest both in the chancel and in the body of the church. In the chancel note (1) piscina, (2) Easter sepulchre, (3) large altar tomb with effigies of Edward Skynner and wife (1631) and figures of ten children in relief on a panel, (4) three small figured brasses, (5) stalls and misericordes, (6) four ambries, (7) copy, by a native of Ledbury, of Leonardo's well-known picture of "The Last Supper," (8) cradle roof, (9) hagioscope. The chancel arch appears to be Trans.; and the clerestory retains the original Norm. circular openings. At the E. end of the S. aisle, which was originally a chapel (St. Anne's), there is the incised monument of Edward Cooper (1596), and a piscina. At the

W. end of this aisle are a number of Biddulph monuments. In the N. aisle is the effigy of a woman (fourteenth century); and at the E. end of it is a modern monument in memory of the parents of Mrs. Browning. The glass in the church deserves attention: one window reproduces the familiar Burne Jones' tapestry of "Bethlehem," and another is a copy of a Reynolds' window at New College, Oxford. In the churchyard is to be seen the tomb of Thomas Russell, a blacksmith, whose epitaph alludes in quaint fashion to his occupation: it will be found under a yew tree near the S. door.

The remains of two camps are situated near Ledbury. One is *Kilbury Camp* (on the road to old Colwall), of which only portions can be traced. The other is *Wall Hills* (a mile along the Hereford road). This, which stands on high ground above a farm, is a very large one, and covers 33 acres. The strength of the ramparts varies with the nature of the ground. Both pre-Roman weapons and pottery, and Roman bronze coins have been found in it, so that it seems to have had successive occupants.

Leinthall Earles, a hamlet in the parish of Aymestrey, 5 miles N. of Kingsland station. The little church of St. Andrew retains traces of its Norm. origin in two of its chancel windows.

Leinthall Starkes, a village between Wigmore and Ludlow, 6 miles S.W. of the latter. The church (St. Mary Magdalen) is of no great interest, but preserves an ancient screen and font.

Leintwardine, a large village between Ludlow and Knighton, the nearest station being Bucknell

(L. & N.W.R.), 4 miles. As it is situated near the confluence of the Teme and the Clun, it is a convenient spot for anglers. For antiquaries it has considerable interest, for it was once a Roman station (p. 44). It has been conjectured to be identical with the ancient *Bravonium;* and the occupation of it by the Romans has been proved by the coins, pottery, and other remains which have been found in the locality. It seems to have been defended by an earthwork, rectangular in shape (as Roman entrenchments usually were), with a fosse outside it; and it covered in all 16 acres. The line of the ramparts is now practically obliterated, but one side is believed to have passed close to the E. end of the present church. It lay near the Roman road between Wroxeter (*Viroconium*) and Caerleon (*Isca Silurum*), which ran through Aymestrey, Stretford, and Kenchester towards Abergavenny (*Gobannium*). The parish church (St. Mary Magdalen) is of considerable size, with a gaunt-looking tower, exhibiting a large semi-circular stairway on the W. face. The base of the tower conceals an E.E. door on the S. side; but there is a still earlier Norm. door (now blocked) at the W. end. The two arcades within the church (which are surmounted by a clerestory) differ, one consisting of cylindrical, the other of octagonal columns. The nave floor has been lowered, so that the chancel is of unusual elevation. In this are preserved some stalls (those on the S. retaining their misericordes) brought from Wigmore Abbey (p. 265), together with some stone panel work. Note the sedilia and the piscina. A large Dec. chapel on

the N. is now used as a vestry and organ chamber: this, too, has a piscina. The roof of the nave deserves attention. Two miles S. of Leintwardine is *Brandon Camp*, 536 feet above sea level and enclosing 9 acres. The artificial defences consist of a single rampart and ditch, with an entrance on the E. Romano-British remains have been found in the neighbourhood. At Walford, about a mile to the W., is a moated tump, 17 feet high and 36 feet across the top.

LEOMINSTER (pronounced, and even spelled on some old milestones, Lemster), a market town and municipality on the Lugg in the N. of the county, 13 miles N. of Hereford, with a station on the Hereford and Shrewsbury line, forming a junction for New Radnor and Kington on the W. and Bromyard on the E. The population of the municipal borough is 5737, and of the ecclesiastical parish 4983. As the name is written Leofminster in Doomsday, it probably means the Minster of Leofric. Leominster is second in importance only to Hereford, whose commercial supremacy it once seriously challenged. Like that city its interests are almost entirely agricultural, and it occupies a similarly favoured situation amongst the fertile lowlands, though its meadows are watered by a more insignificant stream than the Wye. Both places, too, owe their early growth to ecclesiastical influences, though Leominster has never had the military and political importance of the county town. It has experienced some vicissitudes of fortune. In 1055 it fell into the hands of Aelfgar, Leofric's outlawed son, when he in conjunction

with his ally, Gruffydd ap Llewelyn, raided the county ; but it was speedily recaptured by Harold. The turbulent William de Breose subsequently burnt it, when he was being harried out of the country by King John. In 1402 Glyndwr occupied the town after his rout of the Mortimer levies at Pilleth ; and a year later after the defeat of his allies at Shrewsbury he again appeared before it, much to the consternation of the local authorities. It obtained its first charter from Queen Mary as a reward for the services which its townspeople rendered her in dispersing the adherents of Lady Jane Grey ; but during the Civil Wars of the seventeenth century its loyalist sympathies secured for it an unwelcome visit from the Parliamentary forces. It once had the privilege of returning two members to Parliament, but in 1867 the number was reduced to one, and subsequent legislation merged its representation in that of the county. Commercially it owed its prominence to the reputation of its wool market, which in Stuart times was esteemed to be the best in England. The wealth which its fleeces brought to its townspeople caused the poet Drayton to celebrate their fame as "Leominster ore" :—

> Where lives the man so dull on Britain's furthest shore
> To whom did never sound the name of Leominster ore,
> That with the silkworm's web for fineness doth compare?

But its fame in this respect so excited the jealousy of the rival merchants of Hereford and Worcester that they contrived to secure the alteration of its market day, much, it is said, to the detriment of its staple trade.

The town is a clean and comely place, but has few pretensions to picturesqueness, for its immediate surroundings are flat, and it has little architectural dignity to compensate for the tameness of its setting. It trusts chiefly to its neatly planted approaches to make a favourable impression on the visitor. Its main thoroughfare, which runs N. and S. along the course of the Lugg, is somewhat congested, though its narrowness is much in keeping with the antiqueness of its many old-fashioned dwellings. In the centre of the town there is a peculiarly narrow street, containing some quaint shops, not yet wholly modernized, and known as "Drapers' Row". The chief glory of the town is its Minster, which occupies a less prominent position than its size and interest entitle it to. Its foundation is generally credited to Leofric, Earl of Mercia, the celebrated husband of the still more famous Lady Godiva, who in the eleventh century established here a Benedictine nunnery; but legend ascribes to it a more romantic and still earlier origin. The story goes that in the seventh century a local monk of great sanctity had a dream that a lion was feeding out of his hand. The same night Merewald, the Mercian King, who on account of his ferocity was nicknamed "the Lion," likewise dreamt that a strange anchorite brought to him tidings of great moment. The next day the King made the acquaintance of his fellow-dreamer, whose godly conversation so wrought upon his mind that he forthwith renounced his evil ways; and in honour of his conversion reared a noble church on the scene

of the interview. The tradition is embodied in a little sculpture which adorns one of the interior capitals of the W. doorway. Nothing, of course, survives of the Saxon church. When the Normans came, the original nunnery was transformed into a monastery, and they built their new church on large and stately lines. The minster (dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul) incorporates, as it stands to-day, the noble fabric which they designed ; but it includes a great deal more besides, for it is to all intents and purposes a double church. The priory was bestowed by Henry I. on the wealthy Abbey of Reading ; and a subsequent dispute between the townsfolk and the monks led to the erection of a parish church alongside of the Norm. nave of the monastery. The later addition now forms the central portion of the building, and the Norm. church has been reduced to the position of a subsidiary aisle. The visitor who, entering in the customary way by the S. door, begins to view the church from that point will read its story backwards : he should therefore cross the building and take his stand by the great W. door beneath the tower. He will then have before him the nave of the original minster which the Normans reared in the twelfth century. It is flanked by massive cylindrical columns forming an arcade of six bays, and supporting a triforium of pairs of semi-circular arches enclosed in a larger containing arch, with a clerestory pierced by round-headed lights above it. The arcade has, however, undergone some modification of the original design. As will be seen from two remaining examples on the N. and S. sides, it

LEOMINSTER PRIORY CHURCH, NORMAN DOORWAY

once consisted of alternate large and small arches; and it will be discovered that most of the small arches have been subsequently removed and replaced by arches of equal span. The W. doorway which gave entrance to this imposing structure is especially noteworthy. Externally it exhibits three orders, but on its interior face there are only two; the capitals in both cases are very curiously carved. The archway is repeated in the stage above to form a W. window; and the tier is crowned by a not very impressive Perp. tower, which appears to have been substituted for an earlier central tower, now demolished. With the earlier tower has disappeared the E. termination of the church, of which the foundations are just traceable outside. A remarkable transformation has also been effected in the N. aisle by the substitution, in Tudor times, of a series of gabled windows (mostly with wooden mullions) for the earlier round-headed windows, one of which still retains its place in St. Anthony's chapel (now the choir vestry). The original Norm. S. aisle has been altogether removed to make room for the later church into which the Norm. S. arcade now opens. The new building was E.E., and the characteristic features of the style are still preserved in the arches of the arcade which divides its nave from an adjoining S. aisle, and in the fine S. doorway.

The church did not, however, assume its final form until later. In the fourteenth century the S. aisle was remodelled by the insertion of some handsome Dec. windows, profusely adorned, within and without, with the ball-flower ornament—a feature also repeated in the sedilia and piscina of the

Lady-chapel (now the organ chamber), in which the aisle terminates, and which belong to the same period. The following century saw the erection of the W. tower (with its Perp. panelling) and of the great W. window. In 1699 a destructive fire occurred in this later church, which destroyed the chancel, and so seriously injured the arcade that the supporting columns had to be rebuilt. The chancel has never been replaced, and it is only within the last fifty years that the church as a whole has been rescued from the neglect which overtook it after the conflagration. The Norm. nave was at one time entirely discarded, except as a burying place; and unsightly galleries marred the beauty of the rest of the building. Beyond the stately character of the fabric there is not much for the visitor to examine. Some ancient glazed tiles will be found flooring the recesses at the W. end of the church; and in the N. aisle is preserved a very perfect specimen of a ducking-stool, intended as a "water cure" for scolds. By far the most precious possession of the church, however, is its splendid mediæval chalice of exquisite fifteenth century workmanship (one of the very few surviving in the county, and said to be the finest in England), and a paten of earlier date and rather ruder modelling. The domestic buildings of the monastery originally stood to the N. of the church on a site now occupied by the workhouse, which has incorporated the remains. In the street leading to the church will be observed an ancient chapel, formerly attached to the monastery, but now used as a solicitor's office.

Next to the Priory Church the most interesting thing in the town is the *Grange House*, a beautiful specimen of half-timbered work, the creation of John Abel (see p. 72). It once stood in the centre of the town, where it formed the Market Hall ; but in 1853 it was put up to auction and knocked down for a sum of £95. The purchaser removed it to its present site opposite the public recreation ground, and transformed it into a private residence. It was built in 1633, and is a two-storied edifice resting on oak columns (the arches of which have been filled in with masonry), and is adorned with carvings of unusual excellence. Round the structure runs a Latin legend, which also appears on the top of the Jacobean screen at Abbey Dore (p. 85). Another survival from earlier days is Drapers' Row, the narrow alley already alluded to (p. 195). There are many black-and-white houses dotted about the town, but beyond the fact that they form a pleasant link with the past, they do not call for particular notice, though some exhibit curiously carved barge-boards. A house in Bridge Street, near the Cross Keys Inn, claims the greatest antiquity. In Bargates (reached through West Street) are some almshouses founded in 1736, but rebuilt in 1874. On the front, within an alcove, is the figure of a man armed with a hatchet ; and inscribed beneath is a couplet, perhaps unwittingly designed to discourage anyone from seeking to evade the death duties :

He that gives away all before he is dead,
Let 'em take up this hatchet and knock off ye head.

The modern public buildings of Leominster are not remarkable. The Town Hall was erected in 1856, and the Corn Exchange in 1850. About 1 mile to the S.E. of the town stands *Eaton Hall*, a moated mansion, which was once the home of the Hackluyts.

Letton, a parish on the N. road between Hereford and Hay, 2 miles S.E. of Eardisley station. It has a curious church (St. John Baptist), within the grounds of Letton Court. The nave was originally Norm., and both the S. and W. doors have Norm. tympana, the lintel of the first exhibiting some carving. In the chancel, which is E.E., there is a large Dec. cusped recess, which has lost the effigy for which it was presumably intended; and there is a piscina (probably displaced) outside the altar rails. On the S. is a large transeptal chapel (ascribed to the fourteenth century), which has a separate external door; it contains two recesses (of which the canopies have been barbarously destroyed) and a piscina (decorated with the ball-flower ornament). There are three bells in the tower, two of them, with Latin inscriptions, of pre-Reformation date. The base of the tower serves as a N. transept; a mark on the internal arch indicates the height reached by a flood in 1795. The oak woodwork in the church deserves notice.

Lingen, a village $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Presteigne, on the road to Ludlow. The church (St. Michael and All Angels) has been rebuilt and is of little interest, though it contains a thirteenth century font and some ancient benches brought (it is supposed) from a demolished chapel. North of the building is a

moated mound, of a frequently recurring type. A priory of nuns, founded by one of the Mortimers (*temp.* Edward I.), formerly existed here.

Linton, a village 4 miles E.N.E. of Ross, on a ridge commanding a fine double view, embracing the Sugar Loaf, the Skyrryd, and beyond these the Welsh hills, on one side, and the Malvern Hills on the other. The church (St. Mary the Virgin) is very quaint, and displays signs of great antiquity. The tower is surmounted by a spire, and the roof is groined. Within are preserved two slabs with floriated crosses. Of the two arcades the N. has round arches supported on massive piers of a very crude character: the S. has pointed arches, and is clearly later in date. Amongst other features of the building, note (1) lancet window in the N. wall; (2) rude piscina cut on the splay of one of the chancel windows; (3) a second piscina on the S. wall of the nave; (4) fragments of ancient glass in two of the windows. A round-headed S. door has been blocked.

Llancillo, a small village in the S.W. corner of the county, midway between Pontrilas and Pandy stations. The church, situated in what Duncumb describes as "the angle of a sequestered vale looking towards the Monnow," is a small aisleless building with a wooden belfrey. The interior contains some remains of a rood-loft. As might be expected in a parish so near the Welsh border, there is a castle mound, with the foundations of a stone wall round the summit. On two sides are the remains of a moat; and it was also defended by a small stream.

Llandinabo, a village 6 miles N.W. of Ross, on the Hereford road. The name preserves the memory of St. Inabwy (Latinized into Junapeius), a bishop of Llandaff. The church, which is reached across a field, is very diminutive, but is remarkable for a beautiful, though naturally very small, oak screen. Instead of the customary vine-leaf pattern there is a series of fanciful monsters. Mr. F. Bond thinks that it may perhaps be of thirteenth century origin. Near the screen, on the N. wall of the chancel, is a small brass, showing the half-length figure of a man, and bearing the date 1629. The octagonal font is ancient, but is not otherwise noteworthy. The churchyard contains a yew of enormous girth. Less than a mile from Llandinabo is *Harewood Park*. There was at one time a chapelry of the Knights Templars here, which, after the extinction of that Order, was given to the Knights Hospitallers. A modern successor of the chapel, built in 1864, stands within private grounds. It preserves a pre-Reformation bell (with the inscription *Ave Maria Johannes de Coxbrough me dedit*) and a Norm. font. The park, which abounds with fine trees, was once part of a forest within which, in Saxon times, Earl Ethelwold, the minister of King Edgar, is said to have had his castle.

Llangarren, a parish in the S. corner of the county, 6 miles S.W. from Ross. The village lies at the bottom of a valley through which flows the Garren brook. The church (St. Deinst), which stands on the slope overlooking the stream, has a graceful tower and spire, and on the S. side pre-

sents a very picturesque exterior. On the N. it is spoilt by a large and obtrusive N. aisle built in 1676. The chief feature of the interior is a triple chancel arch, which is, however, a modern adaptation. Originally there was only a central archway flanked by two hagioscopes, which have been opened out to form the triplet. At the S. corner of the nave is a pretty dormer window; and fixed against the S. wall near the doorway is a small and early effigy with crossed arms. The font is octagonal, and is sculptured with quatrefoils and other devices. Behind the church is *Langstone Court*, a seventeenth century brick mansion, said to have been erected or altered by Inigo Jones; and on higher ground, ½ mile to the E., is *Beneithen Court*, a house of rather earlier style, which is reputed to have been once honoured by a visit from James I. Both houses have interesting interiors. There is a modern church at *Longrove* on a high ridge to the S., from which a good view of the valley and village can be obtained.

Llanrothal, a parish in the valley of the Monnow, 5 miles N.W. from Monmouth. The place presumably owes its name to an unknown British saint. The little primitive-looking church stands in a field on the banks of the river, and has little to attract visitors except its pleasant and peaceful situation. The Monnow, though not possessed of the "wooded walls" and rocky gorges of the Wye, is nevertheless a charming stream. It flows through a wide and sinuous valley shut in by smooth hills, whose sides are chequered with coppice and meadow. Amongst the pastures on the banks of

the river is this little secluded church. In its porch is a stoup, and there is an unusual recess on either side of the chancel arch. When the church was re-seated, the original altar-slab, bearing its consecration crosses, was discovered. A traceried Perp. window, evidently brought from somewhere else (for it has been cut down to suit its present position), has been inserted in the S. wall of the chancel; and another similar window has been appropriated by a neighbouring farm. Llanrothal Court, not far from the church, contains an Elizabethan oak chimney-piece. *Tregate House* dates from the Tudor period.

Llanveyno, a parish at the foot of the Black Mountains, standing on the top of a ridge which divides the valley of the Monnow from the bed of its tributary, the Olchon brook, 7 miles N.N.W. from Pandy station The church is a small aisleless building standing in a field. From its elevated churchyard a glimpse may be obtained into some of the lonely recesses of the Black Mountains. The church itself has been considerably restored, but retains two incised slabs. It is now dedicated to St. Beuno and St. Peter, but the name of the place suggests that St. Beuno alone was formerly the patron saint.

Llanwarne (Celtic for "the church of the alders"), a village 8 miles S. of Hereford, and rather less from Ross, prettily situated in a hollow between the roads from Hereford to Ross and Monmouth. The ruins of the ancient church by the banks of a stream give additional picturesqueness to the scene. The building, though roofless, retains its tower

LLANWARNE, RUINED CHURCH

intact. There is a defaced Latin inscription above the S. doorway, and the S. aisle displays some good Dec. windows. The soil, which now forms the floor of the church, has been much raised, and partly obscures a piscina in the sanctuary. A small projecting N. chapel preserves a "classical" font. The new church (Christ Church), which was erected in 1864, stands on higher ground in close proximity. The windows on the N. side of it contain some medallions.

Longtown, a large and agreeable village lying in the valley of the Monnow at the foot of the Black Mountains, 4½ miles N.N.W. of Pandy station. It originally derived its importance from its castle; and the village (in justification of its name) still straggles down the valley from the castle mound, which stands like a citadel at the N. The mound, which is of considerable size and height, crowns a knoll and carries on its summit the remains of a large cylindrical keep, some 40 feet high with walls of immense thickness. Portions of the curtain wall which enclosed the court also survive, and are pierced by a rough gateway. Some embankments on the other side of the road probably formed the defences of an outer court or bailey, and may be the remodelled remnants of some earlier fortification. The stronghold was founded by the De Lacys, the Norm. lords of Ewyas, shortly after the Conquest, and is said to have successfully withstood in 1146 a siege by the combined Welsh forces of Cadell, Maredydd, and Rhys, the sons of Gruffydd ap Rhys, though the existing fabric seems of rather later date. The ruin, though badly breached, is

impressive, and its situation, overlooked by the long ridge of the Black Mountains, is very striking. At its foot stands a modern church (St. Peter).

Lucton (*i.e.* Luggton), a parish 5 miles N.W. of Leominster. The church was originally founded shortly after the Conquest, but was rebuilt in 1850-52, and now contains nothing of interest. A mile to the S. is Mortimer's Cross (see p. 179).

Lugwardine, a village 2 miles E. of Hereford, near the Lugg. The church (St. Peter), standing on a rise, has a curious arrangement of aisles and presents gables along the N. and S. sides, as well as at the E. and W. ends. It seems to have been originally a Norm. building (to judge from the small Norm. light preserved in the S. wall), but it has been altogether transformed. A seventeenth century monument, with an effigy and figures of children in a panel below, will be found in the base of the tower ; there is a small brass (likewise seventeenth century) on the S. wall ; and there are piscinas in the chancel and the S.E. aisle.

Lyonshall, a parish 2 miles E. of Kington, with a station on the line from Kington to Eardisley. The name was formerly Lenehalle (eleventh century) and Lenhales (1243). Within the parish, and best seen in the grounds of the mansion of Lynhales, there survives a section of Offa's Dyke, thickly covered with trees and brushwood and protected on the W. (or Welsh) side by a fosse. The church (St. Michael and All Angels), which is near the road, retains two Norm. windows in the tower and at the W. of the N. aisle ; but it seems to have been reconstructed in E.E. times (thirteenth century).

It has a rather unusual arcade on the N., the piers consisting each of four clustered columns, with small pilasters inserted at the angles. The piers on the S. are more commonplace and less graceful. The chancel is usually assigned to the same date as the nave, but the E. window belongs to a later period. Above the arcade is a clerestory, two lights of which are enclosed by the transeptal chapels (the roofs of the latter having been raised). The font (E.E.) stands on eight clustered shafts; there are piscinas at the E. of both aisles as well as in the chancel; and in the S. aisle there is a headless effigy. The tower is attributed to the fourteenth century; and the E. external gable of the nave retains the bell-cot for the *sanctus* bell. Eastward of the church is a moated mound, with a court on the N.E. It is the site of a castle, built in 1091 and owned by Roger de Lacy, but ruinous as long ago as the reign of Edward II. A few vestiges of masonry, pertaining to a circular keep, are all that remain of the fortress. The moat is of the "wet" variety.

Madley (*i.e.* "Mada's meadow"), a village situated on the S. side of the Wye, 6 miles W.S.W. from Hereford, on one of the roads to Hay. It has the distinction of possessing a church (St. Mary) which is one of the most impressive in the county. Though a thoroughly harmonious building as a whole, it exhibits in detail the work of several successive periods. The earliest part is now a N. porch, but is said to have once been a N. transept: this is Norm. in character (note the two windows in the E. and W. walls). The fine vaulted nave, with its

accompanying aisles, is mainly E.E. (note the lancets lighting the N. aisle and the clerestory). The choir, which ends in a polygonal apse, is Dec., and has beneath it a groined and vaulted crypt. The crypt has two separate entrances, and its roof is supported by a single octagonal column. It is stated to be the latest constructed in the country. The generous accommodation already provided by the building as originally planned has been further augmented by the erection, on the S. side, of an additional aisle of spacious dimensions. This, like the chancel, is Dec., and has at the W. end an altar tomb with the effigies of a knight, R. Walters, and his lady (1574). The only other monument of note is a mural tablet, with figures, on the N. wall of the choir, to the memory of Peter Garnon. The choir stalls, which retain their misericordes, are worthy of observation, as also are the Jacobean pulpit and the curious pew (with tester) at the end of the N. aisle. The latter is said to have been constructed out of the remains of the rood-loft, which was demolished in 1574. It seems to occupy the site of an altar (note the piscina and ambry near it). In addition to its stalls the chancel preserves its piscina ; and as at *Little Hereford* (p. 167) there are triple sedilia, which are of Dec. workmanship and ornamented with the ball-flower device. There is a third piscina in the wall of the S. aisle. The font, made out of a large block of conglomerate, is generally regarded as Norm. In size and shape it resembles that at Bredwardine (p. 100), but, unlike the latter, is supported on a single massive stem. In some of

the windows are preserved fragments of ancient glass. Externally this magnificent church is not quite so imposing, its long straight outline being rather too regular and unrelieved to be altogether effective. The massive W. tower, in which swing the bells of Abbey Dore (brought here, it is said, at the dissolution of the abbey in 1538), is E.E. and has a projecting turret. The dedication of the church is rather exceptional—The Nativity of St. Mary the Virgin.

Mansel Gamage, a village 9 miles W.N.W. from Hereford (nearest station Moorhampton, 1 mile, on the Hereford and Hay line). The first part of the name is a corruption of Malveshylle, *i.e.* mallow hill; the second is derived from the Gamage family, the owners of the property in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The church (St. Giles), which stands at the foot of a hill at the entrance of the village, may be reached by a long lane leading from the Hereford and Hay road. It is a small cruciform structure dating (with the exception of the tower, which was built in 1824) from the twelfth century. It has a round-headed arch at the S. entrance, and against the N. chancel wall within is an incised body-stone. *Garnons* is an imposing modern castellated mansion, facing the Hay road, and is surrounded by some fine grounds and gardens.

Mansel Lacy, a village picturesquely situated in wooded valley between the Hereford and Weobley and the Hereford and Kington roads, 7 miles N.W. from the city. The church (St. Michael), in the centre of the village, is a low irregular build-

ing, with a pyramidal cap to its W. tower, and exhibits an antique aspect which somewhat belies its lack of real interest. It is chiefly Dec., but there is nothing very remarkable within. The porch contains a stoup; and near the chancel arch is the bracket of a demolished rood beam. Some small brackets also project from the chancel walls, and were probably the supports for a Lenten veil. In the S. aisle is a piscina, and in the churchyard is the base of the ancient cross surmounted by a modern shaft. Behind the church there appear to be the remains of a castle mound.

Marcle, Little, a parish 4 miles W.S.W. of Ledbury. The existing church (St. Michael and All Angels) was erected in 1870, but it has plate dating from 1571. The name Marcle seems to mean "boundary meadow," the final syllable being a corruption of *ley*.

Marcle, Much, a village famous for its cider production, lying along the Ledbury and Ross road, 5 miles from the one town and 7 from the other. Its church (St. Bartholomew) wears something of the aspect of a miniature cathedral, perhaps in consequence of its central tower and clerestories. The N. and S. aisles are separated from the nave by arcades of cylindrical columns, four of these bearing foliage and human faces on the capitals. The building is rich in effigies. In a N. chapel, containing records of departed Kyrles, Moneys, and Money-Kyrles, are two altar tombs, each with two figures. The earlier (fourteenth century) is surmounted by the effigies of a hip-belted knight in armour, and a lady—probably Lord Mortimer and

his wife. (The barony was granted to Edmund Mortimer by Edward I.) The later tomb (early seventeenth century) is that of Sir John Kyrle, Bart., and his wife Sibyl. The figures are said to have been sculptured in Italy. N. of the presbytery, under a fifteenth century canopy, is the effigy of a lady, thought to be Blanche, daughter of Roger Mortimer, and wife of Sir Peter de Grandison. Lastly, on the sill of one of the S. windows is the most interesting of all—an effigy of wood (*temp.* Edward I.) representing a civilian, cross-legged, dressed in a close-fitting jerkin, with a belt round the hips supporting a purse, and a sheath for a knife or perhaps a pen. The only other wooden effigy in the county is at Clifford (p. 114). The font is tub-shaped ; there is a piscina in the N. aisle ; and a stoup is preserved near the lady's tomb just described. On the S. wall of the sanctuary is a picture representing the head of Our Lord ; and over the entry to the vestry is a small brass, with a Latin inscription. The churchyard contains the base of a cross, and an immense yew tree with a seat within the trunk. *Homme House*, on the road to Ross, is the seat of the Money-Kyrles. *Hellens*, another mansion nearer Ledbury, belongs in part to Henry VII.'s time. There is here an octagon pigeon-house, dated 1641. There once existed near the church a fortified mound called *Mortimer's Castle ;* but the remains are now almost obliterated. Marcle (or Marcley) Hill, an eminence to the N. or N.E., is recorded to have been the scene of an extensive landslide, which, if all that is related be true, must have been of a rather peculiar character. Camden

states: "Near the conflux of the Lug and the Wye a hill, which they call Marclay hill, did in the year 1575 rouse itself as it were out of sleep and for three days together shoving its prodigious body forward with a horrible roaring noise and overturning everything in its way, raised itself to the great astonishment of the beholders to a higher place". It demolished a chapel, the bell of which was unearthed in the course of some ploughing in 1840, and is now preserved at Homme House.

Marden, a parish about 5½ miles N. of Hereford; nearest station Moreton-on-Lugg, 1 mile. The church (St. Mary), having a tower which is virtually detached, owes its chief interest to the circumstance that it was hither that the body of the murdered Ethelbert (see p. 244) was brought for burial, and that a spring (so it is averred) burst forth on the spot when the body was removed to Hereford. A well certainly exists at the W. end of the church. It is said to retain its purity even when the Lugg, which runs near, is in flood and overflows its banks. The only other noteworthy features of the building (which has an apsidal E. end) are (1) the brass of Margaret, wife of Sir G. Chute, who died (1614) in childbirth (note the infant in swaddling bands); (2) a second brass, without figure, of still earlier date (1579); (3) the piscina, placed at a very low level (the floor has probably been raised); (4) the squints; (5) the thirteenth century Dec. font.

Marstow, a parish 2½ miles W. of Kerne Bridge station (Ross and Monmouth line). The church is modern (1856-7). The churchyard still retains

the base of the old cross. The name Marstow presumably preserves the memory of St. Martin (cp. *Bridstow*, *Peterstow*).

Mathon, a parish 5 miles N.W. of Colwall station, on the W. side of the Malvern Hills. The church (St. John the Baptist) preserves some Norm. work in the S. and N. doors; and the E. end is lit by two lancets and a round window (resembling the clerestory openings at Ledbury). Note (1) the roof (thought to be fourteenth century); (2) the last six benches at the W. of the building (original), with shelves upon which the worshippers knelt when the floor was of earth; (3) piscina and ambry in the S. and N. chancel walls; (4) Jacobean pulpit; (5) ancient chest in the vestry. The base of the tower is probably E.E.; the upper part Perp. In the neighbourhood there have been found recently some fragments of pottery, accompanied by calcined bones, which have been assigned to the Bronze period.

Michaelchurch, a small parish 6 miles W.N.W. from Ross. The church, a little aisleless building of simple construction, situated on a declivity, is more remarkable for its contents than for its architectural merits. In a recess in the N. wall is preserved a Roman altar discovered in the neighbourhood (which shows other traces of Roman occupation). It is a short cylindrical pillar (2½ feet high), carrying a square head, chamfered on the under side. On one of its faces is inscribed *Deo Trivii Baccicus donavit aram*, and it is supposed to have once stood at the junction of some Roman trackways. The head has been subsequently hol-

lowed, possibly to make it serve as a holy water stoup or a font. The church also possesses a very rude oak screen overhung by the remains of a timber partition, and a sculptured Norm. font. On the N. wall are some remnants of the Decalogue in old English lettering (*temp.* Elizabeth), and on the opposite side of the church are still fainter traces of some Latin texts. The building is unlighted on the N., but has a few small lancets on the S., and one in an unusual position high up in the W. wall. It may reasonably be ascribed to the E.E. period.

Michaelchurch Escley, a parish amid the hilly ground which forms the E. flank of the vale of the Monnow, 3 miles S.W. from Vowchurch station on the Golden Valley line. The church stands on the slope of a hill overlooking the bed of the Escley brook, a tributary of the Monnow, and is a comely structure with a pyramidally roofed tower. The nave retains a good barrel roof, with the tie beams and cornice so common in the district, but now divested of its plaster panelling, and also a timber and stone S. porch. On the N. wall of the nave is a partially obliterated painting of a large figure, and at the S.W. corner is a bench table.

Middleton-on-the-Hill, a parish 5 miles N.E. of Leominster. The church is in the main Norm., with a later tower, and bears its early character on its face more clearly than most. It is worth visiting, and is best reached from Leominster by following first the Tenbury and then the Ludlow road, leaving the latter at the fourth milestone (right). Note, to begin with, the shallow Norm. buttresses

on the external walls. The usual three doorways exhibit Norm. features (the N. door being blocked); the chancel arch, with a round-headed light above it, belongs to the same period; and there are several Norm. windows. The tower arch is pointed, and is probably Trans. Both the nave and chancel have some windows of post-Norm. date inserted in the earlier fabric. In the chancel is a double piscina under a single arch. Near it, in the S. wall, is an ambry, and there is a second ambry in the N. wall. The circular font is doubtless Norm.

Moccas, a parish on the right bank of the Wye, on the S. road from Hereford to Hay, 12 miles W.N.W. of the city. The most convenient station is Moorhampton, 4 miles. The church (St. Michael and All Angels) stands in a park, and is second in interest only to Kilpeck, which in general construction it resembles. It is a small aisleless edifice, built of travertine, with a noteworthy Norm. chancel arch, and an eastern apse (a rarity in Herefordshire, but see pp. 208, 223), separated by a like arch, and vaulted. The N. and S. entrances have Norm. doorways, with curiously carved tympana. The windows are Dec., and retain some of their ancient glass. The curious beam, which supports the roof at the W. end, should be observed. In the centre of the choir is an altar-tomb, with the recumbent effigy of a knight—one of the de Fresnes (fourteenth century); and in the sanctuary is a double Dec. piscina. The font is of unusual shape, but is supported on a modern base. The Court, close by, is the seat of the Cornewall

family, and is a plain brick mansion on a knoll overlooking the river, which is here spanned by a private bridge. In the grounds of the Court is a fine dial pillar, bearing several dials and numerous mottoes. It originally belonged to Monnington Court, on the opposite side of the Wye, and dates from the seventeenth century.

Monkland (see p. 70), a village 3 miles W.S.W. of Leominster, on the Arrow. It takes its name from the circumstance that there was founded here in the reign of William Rufus a small cell of Benedictine monks, which was given by its founder to the Norman Abbey of St. Peter de Castellione. When the alien priories were suppressed, its lands were conferred upon Sir Rowland Leinthall. The church (All Saints), which is surmounted by a spire, was restored in 1865, but preserves various features of antiquity, including four very narrow Norm. slits in the N. and S. walls, a piscina cut on the sill of a window in the nave, and a tub-shaped font. The chancel, which has sedilia, is modern. The lychgate may have an interest for admirers of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, for it was erected in memory of Sir H. W. Baker, Bart., one of the compilers, who was vicar here.

Monnington, a parish on the left bank of the Wye, 12 miles W.N.W. of Hereford. It derives its interest chiefly from its popular reputation as the burial place of Owain Glyndwr, whose daughter Margaret married Roger Monnington of Monnington Court. The Court is a low rectangular structure adjoining the churchyard, originally Tudor in character but rebuilt in the seventeenth century.

MONNINGTON COURT

It contains some panelled rooms, and the doorway bears the arms of the builder and the date 1656. The church (St. Mary) has a plain battlemented tower, but is not architecturally noteworthy. It retains a Jacobean screen. There survives a persistent tradition of Glyndwr's burial here in 1415, and the reputed site is near the N. porch. A grave is said to have been discovered here in 1680, which on examination revealed his remains. The body is described as being "whole and entire, and of goodly stature". A long and imposing avenue of Scotch firs, known as "Monnington Walk," runs from behind the church in the direction of Brobury Scar, and is a favourite promenade with picnic parties.

Mordiford, a village 4 miles S.E. of Hereford, on the road to Ross that follows the left bank of the Wye. It is charmingly situated on the Lugg, where that river joins the larger stream. The church (the Holy Rood, a very exceptional dedication) is ancient, but has undergone a good deal of alteration. The present W. tower, a very ugly structure, was built in 1811: originally there was a central tower, as is suggested by the existence of two chancel arches within the building. These seem to be E.E., and there is a window of the same style in the chancel. The S. door is of still earlier date, being Norm. There are not many features of interest, though note (1) piscina (placed at so great an elevation that it looks as if the floor had been lowered); (2) seventeenth century monument in the S. transept; (3) slab, with incised floriated cross, on the N. of the chancel. Before the W.

tower was built the external W. gable of the church was adorned with a figure of the "Mordiford dragon," 12 feet long, green in colour, with red mouth and forked tongue—a truly fearsome beast. Tradition relates that the dragon haunted the neighbouring woods; that a condemned criminal was promised his pardon if he destroyed it; that he accomplished the task, but himself perished through the poisonous breath of the monster. The figure on the church was perhaps really an heraldic wyvern, which required an appropriate story to explain it, and the demand, as usual, created the supply. The adjacent seat of *Sufton* has been the home of the Herefords since the reign of Henry III. The manor is said to be held by the service of the presentation by the owner of a pair of gilt spurs to the King whenever he rides over Mordiford Bridge. The present house dates from the eighteenth century.

Moreton Jeffreys, a parish 6 miles S.W. of Bromyard. The little church is of no interest.

Moreton-on-Lugg, a parish 4 miles N. of Hereford, with a station a little to the left of the Leominster road. The church (St. Andrew) has been rebuilt and the chancel has its walls covered with modern mosaics. There is preserved a stone altar slab, bearing the usual consecration crosses.

Munsley, 2 miles E.N.E. of Ashperton station. The small church (St. Bartholomew), restored in 1863, is of Norm. date, as shown by the narrow slits, serving for windows, on the N. of the nave and chancel, and the solitary and equally narrow slit that lights the E. end. The walls are of great

thickness, and the splays unusually deep. The chancel arch is plain, without mouldings; and there is a hexagonal Norm. font. Within the screened part of the church which forms the vestry is preserved a fractured stone bearing some puzzling hieroglyphics; whilst outside the W. end are two other ancient slabs with incised crosses, discovered when the walls were reconstructed.

Ocle Pychard, a parish 4 miles N.E. of Withington station. The church (St. James the Great), which stands a little distance to the right of the Hereford and Bromyard road, on a by-road leaving the highway near the seventh milestone, is very secluded. The tower, surmounted by a broach spirelet, is built partly within the nave. Almost all vestiges of antiquity have been lost; but there still remains the entrance to the rood-loft, though the stairway has been destroyed. The old octagonal font is preserved near the tower, and has been replaced, for use, by an extremely ugly modern substitute. The name Ocle probably means "oak meadow". The Pychard family owned the manor in the thirteenth century.

Orcop, a parish in the district of Archenfield, 5 miles E. of Pontrilas station. The final syllable of the name is probably a corruption of the *hope* that figures in several Herefordshire place-names (see p. 70). The village lies at the bottom of a vale, in an angle formed by the junction of Orcop and Garway hills. Behind Moat Farm, rising above the banks of a rivulet, is a tree-covered mound some 24 feet high and 60 feet across the top, the site of some early fortress, the history of which has

been forgotten. Above it, on the shoulder of a spur of one of the neighbouring hills, stands the church, a building much restored but retaining some of its original features. The upper stage of the tower is of woodwork supported within on a strong timber frame. The nave is divided from the N. aisle by an E.E. arcade, and is covered with a good barrel-shaped roof now stripped of its plastering. The floor of the nave exhibits a decided slope towards the chancel, which contains a small piscina that looks as if it was once the top of a pillar stoup. The church plate is Elizabethan (1576). In the churchyard are the base and shaft of a pre-Reformation cross.

Orleton, a village about 6 miles N. of Leominster, situated a short distance to the right of the road leading to Ludlow. The name is thought to mean "the tun among the alders" (A.S. *alr*, "alder"). The church (St. George) deserves some little attention. The building, the tower of which has a shingled broach spire, is (to judge from the windows in the chancel) of E.E. date. Between the two lancets in the E. wall is an image niche, occupying a somewhat unusual position. Note the mediæval glass in some of the windows. There is an interesting font, apparently of Norm. origin, and of rude workmanship. Carved round the bowl under some arcading are nine figures, each holding a book together with (in most instances) some other object. As St. Peter with his key is conspicuous among them, they presumably represent apostles, though the number *nine* is curious and difficult to explain. The village was the birthplace

of Adam de Orleton (see p. 72). Orleton Court is a timbered mansion of sixteenth century origin and more than ordinary interest. Charles I. is said to have stayed in it in 1645 ; and Pope, at a later date, occupied the room (with a projecting window) that stands over the porch. Of one of the former owners, the Blounts, there is a Latin epitaph on the S. wall of the church.

Pembridge, a large village midway between Leominster and Kington, with a station $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the N. Though at present its population is only 995, it once ranked as a town. It enjoys some fame on account of having a superior breed of Herefordshire cattle, but it impresses itself more on the ordinary visitor by reason of its numerous half-timbered houses. The old-fashioned atmosphere pervading it is enhanced by its ancient, but dilapidated, Market Hall, with its eight pillars, but no chamber above them (such as the Ledbury example possesses), and by the quaint detached belfry of the parish church. This is a pagoda-like structure, consisting of a wooden framework built on a stone base. It has been assigned to the fourteenth century, and one of its five bells is of pre-Reformation date. The adjoining church (St. Mary) has been much modified in the course of its history, as may be seen from the piscina on one of the external walls (pointing to the existence of a chapel now demolished) and from the massive pillar partly exposed in the S. interior wall of the chancel. In its present condition it belongs mainly to the Dec. period. Note, on entering, the ancient ring attached to the door and set in the middle of a cross

(cp. *Dormington*). There are two arcades (surmounted by a clerestory) and two transepts, each with its piscina. The chancel, which also preserves its piscina, contains a large tomb (attributed to the time of Henry VI.) supporting four figures. One of these represents a man in civilian dress, and is supposed to be the effigy of John Gower of Marston. Two are women, one of them his wife, the other seemingly a nun or vowess. The fourth is thought to be a priest. There are some quaint carvings on the pulpit, lectern, and faldstool—apparently old materials worked up. The village possesses two groups of almshouses for women: one was founded by Bryan Duppa, Bishop of Winchester, in 1661 ; the other by Dr. Thomas Trafford (who was vicar here) in 1686.

Pencombe, a parish $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. of Bromyard. The church (St. John) was rebuilt in 1864-5 in modern imitation Norm., with a groined apsidal sanctuary. There seems, however, to be a little genuine Norm. work at the W. end : note the deep splays of two windows which are cut through what look like Norm. buttresses. The lord of the manor is said to be able to claim a pair of gilt spurs if the Mayor of Hereford dies during his period of office.

Pencoyd, a village 7 miles N.W. of Ross. It has a very small church, which has been restored, and contains nothing of antiquarian interest except an early font. The Dec. piscina, if ancient, has been renovated.

Peterchurch, a village in the heart of the Golden Valley, which here opens out into a wide vale fenced

with wooded hills and floored with meadows and cornfields, through which the Dore, scarcely more than a rivulet, threads its almost unnoticed way. The place has a station on the Golden Valley line, and forms an excellent centre for those who desire to explore the neighbourhood. The church, which may be regarded as the cathedral of the district, uplifts a lotty and graceful spire as a conspicuous landmark for travellers. It is a purely Norm. structure, with an apsidal sanctuary, and is worth inspecting. On the S. side is an external doorway with shafts on the jambs and a zigzag moulding above. Within are three round-headed archways spanning the building, the centre one of which has the customary zigzag ornamentation. The church retains its original stone altar, marked with the usual consecration crosses, and a round font with the cable moulding. Over the S. door hangs a carved and coloured wooden panel representing a trout with a golden chain round its neck, and bearing the names of some seventeenth century churchwardens. Local gossips relate that a fish, adorned with a similar necklace, was once captured in the stream.[1] Near the N. entrance of the church is a yew tree of exceptional girth. Three miles to the W. of the village, amongst the hills, is *Urishay Castle* (the *hay*, or enclosure, of Ury), once a mediæval "defensible house" (to use the ancient phrase), but subsequently transformed into a Jacobean manor house. It is now occupied as a farm, but retains some good ceilings. Near it is a small

[1] In connexion with this Dr. J. C. Cox refers to articles in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1829 and 1836.

Norm. chapel, long used as a barn, but recently renovated and restored to its original purposes.

Peterstow, a parish 3 miles W. of Ross. The church, of eleventh century origin, is very obscurely placed, and is reached by a lane leading from the Hereford road. It is an aisleless building, with a diminutive tower and spire. Though it has been restored (1866), it retains a Norm. window in the N. wall ; a chancel arch of rather unusual character (note the piers) ; and a Dec. piscina. The pulpit, which is entered from the vestry through the wall, seems to have been made out of old Jacobean materials. A church on the site existed as early as the reign of King Harold. In the neighbourhood have been found Roman *scoriæ*, suggesting that there once were smelting works here. This is probable enough, since the place is not really very far from Weston-under-Penyard (the Roman *Ariconium*, see p. 45).

Pipe and Lyde, a parish 3 miles N. of Hereford. The church (St. Peter), which has a broach spire, is of 13th cent. origin, but has been rebuilt. It preserves, however, a 15th cent. roof, the rood-loft stairs, two mediæval bells, and a chalice case of *cuir bouilli* (stamped with emblems).

Pixley, a parish $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Ledbury. It has a very small church, almost embraced within a farmyard. It is E.E. in style ; the W. gable is crowned by a pyramidal belfry ; and the W. wall is supported by a buttress in which is inserted a very small two-light window. The E. end is lit by two lancets. The most interesting feature of the building is the rood-screen, of very rough work-

manship, with the rood beam above: it is possibly of thirteenth century date. There is an ambry near the pulpit.

Pontrilas, a village and railway junction on the main line to the N. The place is said to have been originally called Elwistone, and obtained its present appellation from a neighbouring mansion in the eighteenth century. Apart from being the junction for the Golden Valley line, it is of no interest.

Preston-on-Wye, a parish 9 miles W. of Hereford, and best reached through Bridge Sollers, though there is another road through Madley. The nearest station is Moorhampton (6 miles). The church (St. Lawrence) has been largely rebuilt, but it preserves some ancient features. Of Norm. work it retains a good S. door, a blocked N. door, and a window in the N. wall. Two other windows look like E.E.; the rest are later. The chancel has kept its piscina, and there is a second in a large N. chapel. There is a foliated priest's door; and the rood-loft stairway still remains. In the base of the tower is a seventeenth century record of the "re-edifying" of the building.

Preston Wynne, a parish 3 miles N.N.W. of Withington station. The church is a modern building, dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Pudleston, a parish 6 miles E. of Leominster. The church, which has been restored at various times, has almost lost the appearance of antiquity, though it preserves vestiges of Norm. work in the W. door (which has a plain tympanum and zigzag

mouldings on the arch) and a Norm. window (within a large containing arch) on the E. of the tower (viewed from within the building). There are also some old encaustic tiles. Pudleston Court is a modern mansion. The name Pudleston appears, according to Canon Bannister, as Pillesdune in the eleventh century, and as Puclesdun in the thirteenth century.

Putley (*i.e.* "Putta's meadow"), a parish lying at the eastern foot of Seager and Marcle hills (nearest station Ashperton, 3 miles). The church, which is reached by a long lane and a path across a field, is prettily situated. The nave has a cradle roof, and preserves a blocked Norm. door on the N.; whilst the chancel has a fine Dec. piscina and an elaborate modern reredos. The most interesting feature, however, is in the churchyard, namely a thirteenth century cross with four figures, all much mutilated: (1) the Virgin and Child, (2) the Crucifixion, (3) a saint holding a book, (4) a second saint holding a cross (thought to be St. John and St. Andrew respectively). Near the church have been unearthed the remains of a Roman villa. The locality (it will be observed) is not very far from the Roman road that led from Stretton Grandison to Newent and Gloucester (*Glevum*).

Richard's Castle, an extensive parish 3½ miles S. of Ludlow. The castle, which gives to the place its name, lies about ¾ mile to the right of the Leominster road, on the E. flank of Vinnall's Hill, at an elevation of 550 feet, and is reached by a very rough and steep path. Unfortunately there is little to reward the visitor when he has gained it, for the

site is overgrown with timber and brushwood. There is a deep fosse, indications of a mound within it, a glimpse of a little masonry, and that is all. The summit of the mound is said to be 73 feet above the bottom of the fosse, and 30 feet in diameter. According to Mr. G. T. Clark, a shell keep was erected on this ; and from it there extended two curtain walls, which, on reaching the edge of the fosse, curved round till they enclosed an area shaped like a half moon. The castle was built by a Norman, Richard Fitz Scrob, and is one of two pre-Conquest fortresses in the county (see p. 29). Hard by is the old church (St. Bartholomew), now used as a mortuary chapel. It has a detached tower, standing a few feet from the E. end (an unusual position). It is of the Bosbury, not of the more interesting Pembridge, type, and once had a spire, which was destroyed by a conflagration. The body of the church contains little of note. Of the old pews with which it is filled, one has a kind of tester. The E. window of the S. aisle has externally the ball-flower ornament ; there is a foliated recess in a N. transeptal chapel ; some little ancient glass survives in the upper part of some of the windows ; and there is a slab with a foliated cross preserved at the W. end. At *Court House* notice should be taken of a circular dove-cot, with 630 nesting places. A spacious new church has been built in a more commodious position than the old, by the side of the main road : it is really in Salop.

Ross, a market town situated on the Wye, with a station on the line between Hereford and Glou-

cester, from which cities it is almost equally distant. The population in 1911 was 4682 within the urban district and 5095 within the ecclesiastical parish. The name is probably the Celtic *rhos* (p. 68). The place stands on high ground flanked by a sandstone cliff on the side facing the river; and many of its streets are steep. It is not lacking in interesting buildings, notably the church, the market house, and the house which was once the dwelling of John Kyrle, Pope's "Man of Ross"; but really its chief attraction lies in its river, for at Ross begins the most picturesque portion of the most picturesque river scenery in England.

The nearness of the place to Weston-under-Penyard (p. 261) makes it practically certain that it was known to the Romans; and confirmatory evidence is afforded by the finding, in 1804, of a coin of Trajan. In the Middle Ages (*temp.* Henry III.) it became a free borough, and was a residence of the bishops of Hereford, who had a palace where the Royal Hotel now stands. In 1637 it was ravaged by the plague; and a cross in the churchyard records the mortality which was then occasioned. Some history has been enacted in its neighbourhood, for both Wilton Castle, just across the Wye, and Goodrich Castle, 5 miles away, sustained attacks in the Civil War. In 1645 Charles I. is said to have stopped a night in the town on his way to Raglan. The place figures in literature in consequence of Pope's ode in praise of John Kyrle (see p. 80).

In the centre of the town, at the junction of four roads approaching respectively from Hereford,

ROSS, MARKET ARCHES

Ledbury, Gloucester, and the Forest of Dean, stands the market house, a stone structure with double gables. This was erected in the reign of Charles II., of whom there is a bust at the E. extremity, whilst a monogram, representing the letters *F* and *C*, intwined with a heart and supposed to stand for "Faithful to Charles in heart," is on the S. wall. The building consists of a hall supported on columns joined by round arches. Though only about 250 years old, the sandstone columns are much worn, and the whole fabric looks more ancient than it really is. The hall serves for sessional and council purposes; whilst the open space below is used as a stand for hucksters.

Opposite the market house is John Kyrle's residence, now divided into two shops. The front shows some carved woodwork, together with a medallion of Kyrle; but the interior preserves nothing of interest. Behind, however, one of the shops is the old-fashioned garden, which contains the Man of Ross's summer-house, and deserves a visit. In two alcoves flanking the doorway can be observed some carving, and some seventeenth century glass, together with a few relics. The garden is situated by the side of the old Gloucester road, which originally ran under an archway (now obliterated) into the market square. Besides Kyrle's house another building displays some fine wood carving, namely a hostelry on the opposite side of the street, with the sign of the "Saracen's Head".

Ross Church (St. Mary), with its tall steeple, which forms a land-mark for many miles round, is an interesting structure. It consists of a spaci-

ous nave, N. and S. aisles, and the Markey chapel, which is virtually a second S. aisle. The arcades, which are all slightly dissimilar in their mouldings, were rebuilt in the eighteenth century, whilst the greater part of the spire was reconstructed in 1852, after being injured by lightning. The roofs of the nave and aisles deserve attention. The chancel is of unusual length. In the E. window is preserved a quantity of fourteenth century glass, supplemented by some of more modern date. The figures in the four lights represent (in order from N. to S.) St. Ethelbert (see p. 245), St. Anne (mother of the Virgin), St. Joachim (husband of St. Anne), and St. Thomas of Hereford. On the floor of the chancel is the slab that covers the grave of John Kyrle (d. 1724); and on the N. wall is a mural monument in his honour. Amongst other memorials on the walls should be noticed that of Nathaniel Hill (d. 1632), with a kneeling figure wearing a ruff. In a recess in the N. wall is a slab bearing an incised cross, book, and chalice, presumably commemorating a priest.

The principal monuments, however, are in the S. aisle. These belong to various members of the Rudhall family, whose home was the manor-house at Rudhall (p. 261). Of these monuments two are extremely fine, and, on the whole, in an admirable state of preservation. The oldest of them is that of Judge William Rudhall and his wife Anne; and supports two alabaster figures. The judge, who died in 1529, wears a round cap and flowing robes. The lady has the pedimental head-dress, and carries a purse and a sheath for some house-

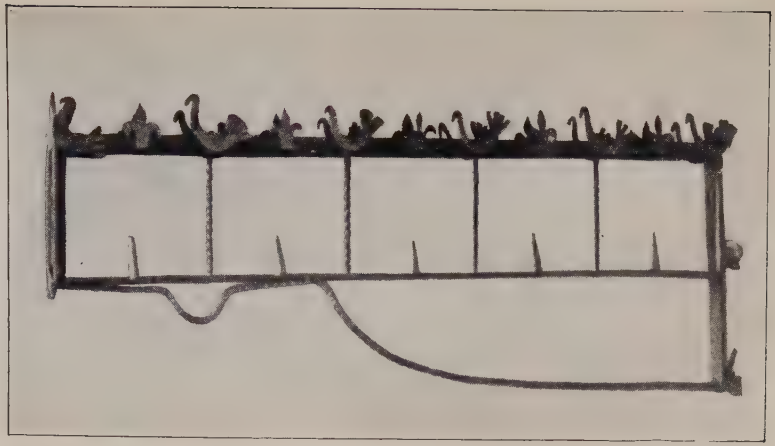
hold implement at her girdle. The panels on the sides of the tomb are very remarkable. On the W. is depicted the Annunciation ; on the S. are the figures of six saints, three on either side of a central panel, which includes a representation of the Trinity ; and on the N. are nine other saints, distinguished by various emblems. The second of the tombs mentioned above is that of John Rudhall (d. 1636) and his wife Maria. The husband, wearing a ruff but bareheaded, is in armour, with ridged cuirass, *épaulières*, and lamboys (protecting the hips) : the lady likewise wears a ruff. On the sides of the tomb are represented the children of the pair. The barbaric figure on a pedestal is William Rudhall (seventeenth century), preposterously arrayed in the garb of a Roman soldier. The marble bust adjoining is that of Thomas Westfaling (d. 1814), who, born a Brereton, married the heiress, and took the name, of the Westfalings (a family connected with the Rudhalls). On the wall above the tomb of Judge Rudhall is a mural monument in memory of another Rudhall ; but the effigies which must once have existed on either side of the faldstool that is still *in situ* have disappeared, though kneeling figures of sons and daughters remain in a panel below. The church has a notable number of piscinas, six in all : one is in the Markey chapel, a second in the E. wall of the S. aisle, a third high up in the same wall (for the rood-loft altar), a fourth in the E. wall of the N. aisle, and two (each with double drain) in the chancel. In the S. chancel pier is a blocked hagioscope, and in the S. porch two slabs with floriated crosses.

The objects which most attract popular attention in the building are the stems of two trees at the E. of the N. aisle. The trees are dead, but they create, at a distance, the impression that they are still growing, in consequence of creepers having been trained round them. It is said not to be true that they were originally planted within the church by John Kyrle: they really sprang from the roots of an elm which formerly stood outside the church, and of which he may possibly have been the planter.

From the churchyard a vantage ground can be reached, called the "Prospect," whence a beautiful view may be obtained. The stone gateway bears Kyrle's crest and monogram. The cross on the N.E. side of the churchyard, commemorating the plague, has already been alluded to.

Ross is exceptionally rich in benefactions. There are no less than five sets of almshouses or hospitals. Of these Webb's Hospital was founded in 1614, and Rudhall's in 1654. The others are Perrock's Hospital, Markey's Almshouses, and Pye's Almshouses. One of the most important charities by which the town benefits was bequeathed by James Baker, who left Ross as a youth in great poverty and returned to it in wealth; and bestowed on the poor of his native town a sum of £26,000, the interest of which is distributed in food, fuel, and clothes. A Bluecoat School was re-established by Walter Scott, a native of the place, in 1785.

Rowlstone (perhaps a corruption of "Hrolf's tun"), a parish situated 2 miles W.S.W. of Pontrilas station, and remarkable for the fine display of



ROWLSTONE CHURCH, RIDDLE BRACKET

Norm. work which its church contains. The building, the approach to which runs over a ridge commanding some pleasant prospects, stands on a high bank by the roadside. It is a small structure, with a W. tower covered by a pyramidal roof, and was erected in 1130. The features of peculiar interest are the S. doorway and the chancel arch, which are both very richly adorned with sculpture In the former a rounded moulding, supported on shafts with carved capitals, encloses a tympanum upon which there is cut in high relief a figure of Our Lord in glory with attendant angels. In the latter, in addition to the zigzag and other typical Norm. decorations, there is carved along the wall, in line with the capitals, a pattern in which a cock and some scroll-work are alternately repeated. On one capitals of the shafts of the arch is a small sculpture of St. Peter (to whom the church is dedicated), accompanied by a winged figure, perhaps his angel. The singularity and richness of the ornamentation suggests a comparison with that Kilpeck (p. 175), though it is neither so striking or so profuse. Some small Norm. lancets are retained in the nave and chancel walls. Extending from the N. and S. walls of the sanctuary are two curious riddel (curtain) brackets. Wrought into the iron-work from which the curtain spikes project the same figure of a cock as that previously noticed, which, in this instance, alternates with a fleur-de-lys. The work is attributed to the thirteenth century, and is said to be the only example of the kind in England. Another bit of iron-work deserving notice is the handle of the

church door. One of the bells in the tower is thought to be of pre-Reformation date, and bears a Latin inscription, *Personat haec coelis dulcissima vox Gabrielis.* Another, though post-Reformation, also has a Latin inscription—*Christus via, veritas, et vita.* In the churchyard is the base and shaft of a cross. Near the church is a moat, with the excavated soil thrown inwards to form a small mound.

St. Devereux, a parish (with a station) on the road from Hereford to Abergavenny, about 8 miles S.W. of the former. The name is thought to be a corruption of St. Dyfrig (Dubricius). The church contains little of interest. There is a piscina in the chancel, two memorial slabs, dating from the seventeenth century, on the W. wall, and two recesses in the N. and S. walls that presumably once contained effigies, but now are only filled with fragments of sculpture.

St. Margaret's, a parish 2 miles S. from Vowchurch station on the Golden Valley line. The church stands on the hilly ground which separates the valley of the Dore from that of the Monnow. It is a small building with an ungainly wooden belfry ; and, though it is of no particular interest in itself, it possesses a remarkable rood-loft. The loft, unaccompanied by a screen, projects from the wall separating the chancel and nave. Beneath it panelled coving extends across the building. The cornices are enriched with some finely wrought fretwork ornamentation. Two supports at the chancel entrance are similarly treated, and carry two vacant canopied niches. The stairway

which gave access to the loft still remains in the wall.

St. Weonard's, a village 7 miles W. of Ross, on the main Hereford and Monmouth road. The name is possibly equivalent to the Welsh *Llanwenarth*, the church of St. Gwenarth. The parish church, of capacious dimensions, occupies a commanding position ; and contains some interesting features. The tower is said to be of fifteenth century date, but portions of the body of the church are earlier than this. The chancel arch, ascribed to the thirteenth century, has been reconstructed. A screen of fifteenth century origin, but restored (1884), separates the chancel from the nave, and a second encloses a N. chapel. This, called the Mynors chapel, founded in 1521, preserves the memory of Richard Mynors. It has a large E. window (restored in 1873), in which there still remains much ancient glass (1375-1400), which is worth close inspection (the figure of St. Weonard is modern). Note (1) a curious bit of wood carving, depicting the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham ; (2) the ancient chest hewn out of a single tree-trunk ; (3) the piscina. In other parts of the building note (1) piscina in the chancel ; (2) bust of winged female figure (with clasped hands) on the wall of the N. aisle ; (3) stoup carved into the shape of a human head, outside the S. door. Some interest attaches to a large mound, some 25 feet high, since it was probably at first a burial tumulus (traces of cremation having been discovered in it), but afterwards utilized for defensive purposes. Roman coins and *scoriæ* have been found in the

neighbourhood. Within the parish is *Treago*, a fourteenth century manor-house.

Sapey, Upper, a parish in an obscure corner in the N.E. of the county, 6 miles N. of Bromyard. The church (St. Michael), which stands in a lane to the N. of the Bromyard road, possesses a good Norm. arch, with zigzag mouldings. There is a fourteenth century bell in the tower.

Sarnesfield, a parish on the Leominster and Hay road, 2 miles S.W. from Weobley, and 3 miles N.E. of Kinnersley station. The church, which stands by the side of the highway, is said to have been erected between 1200 and 1250, and has been carefully restored. It is a modest building, with a timbered S. porch. The tower is remarkable for having once served as a dovecot, with more than a hundred nesting places arranged in six tiers. The S. aisle is under one roof with the nave, but is divided from it by a Norm. arcade supported by piers with cushion capitals. The chancel arch is Dec., and so is the double arch leading into a S. transeptal chapel. Built into the S. external wall of the nave is a stone with V-shaped incisions. Within are a fourteenth century monument to Isabel de Sarnesfield, and some fragments of ancient glass. The neatly kept churchyard contains the tomb of John Abel, the famous builder of the time of Charles I., who died in 1674, at the advanced age of 97. It is near the S. door, and displays the emblems of his craft as well as an epitaph composed by himself. As the latter is now very difficult to decipher, it is reproduced here :—

This craggy stone a covering is for an Architector's bed,
That lofty buildings raised high, yet now lyes low his head;
His line and rule, so death concludes, are locked up in store;
Build they who list or they who wist, for he can build no more.
His house of clay could hold no longer,
May Heaven's joy frame him a stronger.

Sarnesfield Court is a plain brick mansion, in the grounds of which is a celebrated oak.

Sellack, a parish 5 miles N.W. of Ross, which is said to derive its name from St. Teseliachus (Teseliog), a Celtic saint. The church stands near the Wye, at a point where there was once a ferry. It has a tower carrying a graceful spire (thirteenth century), and is entered through a fifteenth century porch, preserving its stoup and an image niche. The interior presents an irregular and rambling appearance, and does not contain many features of interest. The E. window has glass of Dutch workmanship dating from the year 1630; and there are some bits of still earlier date (fourteenth or fifteenth century) in one of the S. windows. There is also a Jacobean pulpit, with its sounding board. A mansion overlooking the river bears the name of *Caradoc Court*. It is an Elizabethan house, restored and enlarged, and has a hall which is finely panelled in oak.

Shobdon ("the hill of Sceoba"), a parish 7 miles W. of Leominster; nearest station Pembridge, 2½ miles. The present church (St. John the Evangelist), which is situated near the Court (*infra*), was erected (it is said) in 1753, and looks like it. The tower, however, is of earlier date; and there is preserved a splendid font, with four lions carved round the stem. Near the church is a mound 16

feet high, which may have been a Norm. *motte*; and there is a second, of inferior size, 300 yards away. Shobdon Court is a Queen Anne mansion and contains a valuable collection of paintings, chiefly of British artists. In the park there has been re-erected some remains of the old church (built about 1140). These consist of the chancel arch, two doorways, and two tympana. The carvings on the capitals, shafts, and arches are of extraordinary richness; and consist largely of the interlaced patterns derived from Celtic art, together with a number of weird birds and beasts. Two of the shafts bear a remarkable resemblance to a shaft at the entrance of Kilpeck church (p. 175). Here each shaft exhibits five figures of warriors garbed in trews, with knotted girdles fastened round their waists; the scale is smaller than at Kilpeck, but the number is larger. One of the tympana represents Our Lord seated in glory (cp. *Rowlstone*, p. 233); the subject of the other, which contains three figures, is obscure. Unfortunately the whole of this beautiful example of art in stone is very badly weathered. In the twelfth century there was a monastery at Shobdon (founded 1141), which perhaps accounts for the elaborate ornamentation of the church. The establishment (it is said) was afterwards removed to Eye (p. 138).

Sollers Hope (or *Hope Sollers*), a parish about equidistant from Hereford and Ross, and rather difficult to reach, since it lies off the main road. The church contains little of interest, though it preserves its old wagon-roof, a piscina and ambry, a tub font, and an incised stone (on the S. wall).

On a neighbouring farm there is a moat, though no remains of the building which it presumably once defended survive. The parish is the reputed ancestral home of Dick Whittington, one of whose forebears, who came from Warwickshire, married the daughter of John de Solers, of Solers Hope, in the thirteenth century. In the vicinity, at the S. extremity of Marcle Hill, is *Oldbury Camp*, a pre-Roman earthwork, covering 14 acres. The ramparts on some sides are almost obliterated, but elsewhere are from 6 to 14 feet high.

Stanford Bishop, a scattered village on high ground overlooking the vale of the Frome, 4 miles S.E. from Bromyard. The church, which from the valley below will be seen perched on the ridge, is an aisleless Norm. building, with a pyramidally capped tower. There is a good S. doorway, a plain round-headed N. door, and some Norm. windows in the nave. Unfortunately the church has lost its most interesting link with the past. This was a wooden chair, supposed to have been used by St. Augustine. It is now preserved in the Royal Museum, Canterbury.[1]

Stapleton, a small place 1 mile N. of Presteigne, notable for the remains of a castle occupying an elevated position. It only just escapes being included in Radnorshire.

Staunton-on-Arrow, a village 2 miles N.W. of Pembridge station. The church, which stands on an eminence, was built in 1853. Near it, at

[1] See Dr. J. C. Cox's *Canterbury* ("Ancient Cities" Series), pp. 273-274 (where for *Stanton Bishop* read *Stanford Bishop*).

the W. end, is a large mound, obviously once a Norm. fortified *motte*, with a base-court below it, on the S. Some distance from the village, in the direction of Presteigne, is *Wapley Hill*, which carries a large camp. In shape the camp is roughly triangular, with the entrance at the S., and encloses 21 acres. As the hill is about 1000 feet above sea level, and the slope on the N. is steep, its position is very strong ; and these natural advantages are greatly increased by no fewer than five ramparts on the accessible eastern side. The entrance is very skilfully protected, and four ramparts extend from it towards the W.

Staunton-on-Wye, a parish on the N. Hay and Hereford road, 8 miles W.N.W. from Hereford. The church (St. Mary) occupies the crest of a knoll overlooking the highway, and may easily be recognized by its position and small pyramidal spire, built in modern times to replace an earlier one of greater dimensions. The nave has a Norm. S. doorway, and within is a blocked Trans. arcade, once communicating with a now demolished N. chapel. Beneath the tower is some Jacobean panelling, which embodies six curious medallions. The churchyard commands a good prospect. In the vicinity is *Kilkington Manor*, now a farm.

Stoke Edith, a village 6 miles E. of Hereford, with a station on the Hereford and Ledbury line. St. Edith, from whom the place takes its name, was the natural daughter of King Edgar, and was brought up in the convent of Wilton, near Salisbury, and was buried in a church which she herself erected at Wilton. Stoke Edith church, dedicated

to St. Mary the Virgin, has a good tower, crowned by a spire (like that of Stretton Grandison); but the rest of the fabric is a most unecclesiastical-looking structure, built in 1740 to take the place of the ancient nave. Its only antiquity is the effigy of a lady (thought to be a Walwyn), with low-cut bodice and a tall pointed head-dress, sloping backwards. Near the church is St. Edith's well. Hard by is the Court, in a fine park. It was erected about the end of the seventeenth century, and since that time has been the home of the Foleys, one of whom was the Speaker of the House of Commons in 1695. In it are preserved some relics of the Duke of Buckingham, who was murdered by Felton in 1628. The dagger with which the deed was done is said to be included among them.

Stoke Lacy, a pleasant-looking village 4 miles S.W. of Bromyard, on the main road to Hereford. The church has been restored, but retains a Norm. chancel arch of plain character. The pulpit and the piscina (both modern) are more remarkable than beautiful. The Lacys held lands here in the thirteenth century.

Stoke Prior, a long and straggling village, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.E. of Leominster. The church of St. Luke, originally (it is said) a Norm. edifice, was reconstructed in 1863, and has no antiquarian interest, though a seventeenth century roof is retained. The locality was occupied by the Romans, for at *Blackwardine*, close by, a number of coins of the early and later Empire, together with pottery and remain resembling kilns, were found when the railway to Bromyard was made. Probably a Roman road

joined this place with Leintwardine (*Bravonium*). In 1891 a set of mediæval Communion vessels was discovered, which is now in London. The second part of the name recalls the fact that certain lands in the parish formerly belonged to Leominster Priory ; and a farm still bears the name of the Priory farm. At *Ford* there is a small chapel of ease, which has been built on the site of an older church. About 2 miles W. of Ford Bridge station is *Ivington Camp*, on a hill over 500 feet high. On the N.W., N., and S.E. sides the defence consists of the natural slope of the hill ; but on the other sides there are earthworks. The ramparts, however, have been much impaired by quarrying operations, especially at the W. angle. At the W. an inner citadel, within the main earthworks, has been formed by the construction of a crescent-shaped rampart.

Stretford, a parish 4 miles S.W. of Leominster, situated on the old Roman road (" Watling Street ") connecting Wroxeter (*Viroconium*) with Caerleon (*Isca Silurum*), near the point where it crosses the Stretford brook. The place has a small but very curious church (St. Peter), consisting of a nave and a N. aisle of equal length, which are divided by an arcade, the top of which does not reach the roof. The E. end of the nave naturally constitutes the chancel, whilst that of the aisle forms a chapel, both being separated from the rest of the building by a screen extending from wall to wall. The fabric is of Norm. date, and some Norm. slits still remain in the N. wall, though in various places E.E. and other later windows have been in-

serted. The most interesting objects in the church are four effigies. Two of them—a knight and lady—lie side by side in the afore-mentioned N. chapel ; whilst the other two (almost the exact counterparts of the former) are placed in the N. aisle. They are in excellent preservation, but sadly neglected ; and are believed to date from the end of the thirteenth century and to represent De la Beres. The font seems to be Norm., and the piscina E.E. Under the arcade is a large square recess which must have been intended to contain a monument.

Stretton Grandison, a village 3 miles N.W. of Ashperton station. The name points to the fact that the place lies on a Roman road, or perhaps at the junction of two, one running westwards to Kenchester (*Magna*), and the other S.E. to Gloucester (*Glevum*). Some remains of Roman dwellings, together with coins, *fibulæ*, a lamp (with the figure of a boy or youth against whom a dog is leaping), a spear-head, bracelets, a steelyard, and other objects, have been discovered here. The place has frequently been identified with a Roman station named *Circutio*, but the identification is discredited by Professor Haverfield. The church (St. Lawrence) stands on rising ground, with a tower crowned by a good spire. The interior is not very interesting, but note (1) the roof, (2) canopy in the N. wall of the chancel, now pierced by the vestry entrance, but perhaps originally erected over the Easter sepulchre, (3) curious seventeenth century inscription on the S. wall of the nave. The font seems to date from the Perp. period ; the screen is

modern. On the hill above the village is an earthwork.

Stretton Sugwas, a parish adjoining the N. Hereford and Hay road, 3 miles W.N.W. of the city. It stands on the Roman road from Stretton Grandison to Kenchester (*Magna*). There was formerly an episcopal palace here, which from 1275 to 1283 was the residence of Bishop Cantelupe. The chapel was demolished in the eighteenth century, and the rest of the building is now a farm. The parish church, near the road, is a modern structure, with an ancient timber-framed seventeenth century tower, removed from the old church which occupied a different site. Within, over the entrance to the tower, there is preserved a curious piece of sculpture, which also belonged to the earlier fabric, and which portrays Samson breaking the jaw of the lion. Fixed against the S. wall of the nave is an incised slab with the figures of a man and his wife, dated 1473. The font is plain, but seemingly of Norm. origin.

Sutton St. Michael, a small place between Marden and Sutton St. Nicholas, 4½ miles N. of Hereford. There is a diminutive church preserving some Norm. work: note the font and the small Norm. slit serving as an E. window. N. of the church is the large camp known as *Sutton Walls*. This is the reputed site of the palace of Offa, the Saxon King of Mercia, and the scene, according to tradition, of the murder of King Ethelbert in 794. Ethelbert came from Backbury (see p. 128) to pay his addresses to Offa's daughter. But he had inspired a passion in the heart of Offa's queen; and

she, finding her advances repelled, occasioned his death. He was buried at Marden, and his body afterwards (about 1030) removed to Hereford, where he was canonized, and a church dedicated in his honour (p. 157). Historians, however, have cast doubts upon the identification of Sutton Walls with the locality where the murder occurred, for the earliest authorities (*e.g.* the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, cp. p. 157) mention no locality. The camp, 330 feet above the sea, is an extensive one, occupying 30 acres : it is a pity that it has not been thoroughly explored.

Sutton St. Nicholas, a village 4 miles N. of Hereford, with historical traditions clinging to it, for the first part of the name recalls the *Villa Australis* where, according to Giraldus Cambrensis, St. Ethelbert met his death, and Sutton Walls camp is close by. The church is a rather curious edifice, with an exceptionally dark chancel. This contains a stone seat in one of the windows, with a piscina by its side (cp. *Dormington*). There is a large S. chapel, with a pedestal for an image, and a piscina ; and there is a third piscina in the nave. The font is presumably of Norm. origin. Along the road to Hereford, about 3 miles from the city, in a meadow on the left, is a large stone known as *Wergin's Stone*. It is some 5 feet high, is about 4 feet in circumference, and is supported on a circular base $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet across. Its origin and significance are conjectural : it may be a Celtic *menhir*, or it may be a boundary stone of mediæval date. There is a curious story attaching to it, to the effect that during the Civil War (to be precise, in 1642) the

stones were removed twelve score paces, no one knowing how ; and that it required several yoke of oxen to drag them back to their former position.

Tarrington, a village about half-way between Hereford and Ledbury, some 6 miles from both. The nearest station is Stoke Edith, on the Hereford and Ledbury line, 1 mile. In the eleventh century the place was called Tatindune, "the hill of Tata" : the modern name begins, according to Canon Bannister, with the sixteenth century. The village has an interesting church (St. Philip and St. James), showing traces of Norm. work of a rather more elaborate type than usual. Both the S. door and the chancel arch belong to this period of architecture : the former has the figures of a horse and man carved on one of the pier capitals, and the capitals of the latter also display figures. Two Norm. windows survive in the N. wall ; and there is likewise a Norm. N. door. On the N. of the chancel there is preserved under a fourteenth century canopy the effigy of a lady of unknown identity ; and in a S. window there is some ancient glass of fourteenth or fifteenth century date. Under the tower is an early coffin-slab bearing an incised cross. In 1644 during the civil troubles, Mr. Pralph, vicar of the parish, at the age of eighty, was shot near Stoke Edith by some Parliamentary soldiers, whose challenge he answered by declaring that he was for God and the king.

Tedstone Delamere, a parish in a very hilly district on the Worcestershire border, 4 miles to the N.E. of Bromyard. Its situation commands some extensive and exceptionally fine views over

Herefordshire and the adjoining counties. The small aisleless church (St. James) stands in a meadow on the slope of a hill below Tedstone Court, and its churchyard looks across a beautifully wooded valley to the massive bulk of the Malvern Hills. Built into the wall of the upper lych-gate is the head of the old churchyard cross, exhibiting the customary representations of the Crucifixion, and of the Virgin and Child, on opposite faces. Near the S. entrance to the church are two time-worn tombstones which, Duncumb states, once bore effigies ; but if so, they are now too much weathered to be recognized, and their date must remain altogether uncertain. The church itself has a wooden spirelet, and its walls preserve some small lancets. Within the building is a good Norm. font and a small sixteenth century chancel screen. The church plate includes a cup and cover of 1573. There is some rather pretty scenery along the course of the Sapey brook which threads the valley below.

Tedstone Wafer, a parish 3 miles N.N.E. of Bromyard. The church is a small modern structure. There are some slight remains of its ancient predecessor in a neighbouring orchard.

Thornbury, a parish 4 miles N.W. from Bromyard, notable for its fine prehistoric encampment. The earthworks encircle the summit of a tree-crowned eminence, known as *Wall Hills*, rising to the E. of the church to a height of 740 feet. The fortification encloses an area of 25 acres, and is defended by a deep ditch and a single rampart. The entrance was on the S.E. The hill com-

mands a very extensive view. The church (dedicated to St. Anne) lies in the valley below, and though despoiled of much of its early interest, has some history behind it. It is a small aisleless building, with a heavy Norm. W. tower, which in recent times has been capped with a timber belfry. The chancel is said to stand on the foundations of an earlier Saxon church, but in Doomsday the manor is stated to have belonged to Alured the Spaniard. On the S. side are three blocked arches which once communicated with a chantry (now demolished), erected by Lady Mortimer in 1360, on the death of her husband. In the N. wall of the nave is a piscina ; and another, in the sanctuary, has a clover-like head, said to be indicative of Spanish influence. A blocked doorway on the N. is of Norm. workmanship ; and the N. wall retains a Norm. window. The font also is Norm. On the jambs of the S. doorway may be observed some roughly scored crosses, which were probably intended as charms against the entrance of evil spirits. Amongst the possessions of the church are three pre-Reformation inscribed bells, an Elizabethan Communion cup, and a seventeenth century hand-bier. The Scotch General Leslie is said to have bombarded the church from the hill above as he hastened to the siege of Hereford. Some cannon balls were found embedded in the tower at the time of its restoration, and a Scotch claymore has been dug up in the churchyard. A mile to the N.E., on the other side of the hill, is *Netherwood*, formerly a moated manor-house belonging to the Mortimers,

but now a farm. It was rebuilt in the eighteenth century, but the gabled end of the house is part of the old fabric, and contains the birthroom of Queen Elizabeth's favourite, Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex.

Thruxton, a parish 6 miles S.W. of Hereford. The church (St. Bartholomew) is of no great interest : it has an inside stoup ; two image brackets at the E. end ; and a font dating (as an obtrusive inscription informs the visitor) from 1677. Near a farm is a mound or barrow, which, when opened some fifty years ago, contained a small rude chamber of stones. Some fragments of rough pottery and iron were also found. At *Cobhall manor-house* there is a room with some carved panelling. The name Thruxton represents "Thorkill's tun".

Titley, an attractive village 3 miles N.N.E. of Kington, with a station of its own, about a mile away. There is, however, little of archæological interest in the place, though a portion of Offa's Dyke is visible near the station. It can best be observed by walking along the metals a hundred yards or so in the direction of Kington. The parish church (St. Peter) is modern (rebuilt 1762). There formerly existed a Priory here, subordinate to the Benedictine House of Tiron, Chartres : when the alien priories were suppressed, its revenues were given to the College at Winchester. The neighbouring mansion of *Eywood* formerly belonged to the Harleys of Wigmore.

Tretire, a parish 6 miles W. of Ross, near the high road to Abergavenny. The church, a modern aisleless building with a spirelet, stands at the

relief. In the N. wall, where there is a blocked Norm. doorway, there is preserved the head of a cross.

Vowchurch, a parish in the Golden Valley, 7 miles N.N.W. of Pontrilas, which possesses a station on the local line. Canon Bannister suggests that the first part of the name may be the same as that of Foy (p. 141), and the whole represents "the church of St. Faith," though the present dedication of the church is to St. Bartholomew. The building, which is near the railway, is a rather unusual structure with a half-timbered spirelet. Its most remarkable feature is the profuse display of "Jacobean" woodwork with which the interior is embellished. The shell of the building is apparently of fourteenth century origin ; but the roof is supported by a number of timber posts ornamented with shields, and dating (it is said) from 1603 ; and a screen similarly adorned stretches across the chancel. The choir benches bear the date 1636. A wooden porch, which forms the S. entrance to the church, is of the same period. In the sanctuary is a plain piscina ; and two empty recesses occur in the N. wall. The font is scored with flutings. There belongs to the church a Communion cup curiously fashioned out of beech wood (a very uncommon material) and dating from about 1620. In the locality is a mound, once fortified, and protected by the river Dore.

Walford, a parish 3 miles S. of Ross, situated amid delightful scenery. The name is thought to mean "Welsh ford" ; cp. *Walnut*, "Welsh (or 'foreign') nut". Probably a Roman road from

Gloucester (*Glevum*), passing through Weston-under-Penyard (*Ariconium*) in the direction of Monmouthshire, crossed the Wye here. The existing name, however, was bestowed by the Saxons. The church of St. Michael and All Angels (though dedicated, according to some, to St. Leonard) has various interesting features. An arcade of four Trans. arches separates the nave from a narrow N. aisle ; and a second arcade of three arches (of rather earlier character) parts the chancel (unusually spacious) from a large N. chapel (the de Walford chapel). Note (1) the massive stoup inside the S. door ; (2) piscina in the S. wall ; (3) piscina in the aforesaid chapel ; (4) large recess with a Dec. head in the N. wall of the chancel ; (5) small Norm. window in the W. wall ; (6) fifteenth century font with Tudor rose at the foot. The tower once had a spire, which was destroyed by a thunderstorm in 1813. At Walford Court are the traces of some earthworks, perhaps dating from the Civil War, for the Parliament forces had their headquarters here when besieging Goodrich castle. *Wythall* is a stately half-timbered house of fifteenth century date, containing a carved spiral staircase and other interesting features.

Walterstone, a parish in the S.W. corner of the county, 1½ miles N. of Pandy station. The locality has a good deal of obscure history behind it, for a pavement was unearthed here in 1775, which probably formed part of a Roman villa. Later, it became a Norm. possession, and so obtained its present name, which is derived from Walter de Lacy, a member of the powerful family which at

the Conquest secured the upper valley of the Monnow, a river which flows down from the Black Mountains through the parish. A moated mound opposite the church is now all that remains of the Norm. stronghold. The church (St. Mary) is a rather poor building, with a double bell-cot. It has little to show the visitor but a stoup within a trefoiled recess in the porch, and a fragmentary cross in the churchyard. Half a mile to the E. of the hamlet is a circular encampment protected on its most accessible side by triple ramparts separated by ditches. *Alterynys*, the ancient patrimony of the Sitsylts or Cecils, stands on the banks of the Monnow near its junction with the Honddu. It is now represented by a farm which once formed part of a seventeenth century manor-house, and which still preserves the old hall and a panelled chamber.

Wellington, a village some 6 miles N.N.W. of Hereford, situated a little distance from the high road to Leominster. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, has a curious tower, the lower portion of which appears to be Norm. In the angles of the buttresses pilasters are inserted ; whilst the central buttress on the W. face is pierced with lights. There are other features of Norm. date in the body of the church, *e.g.* the S. door, the chancel arch (much depressed), and a blocked window in the S. nave wall. The tower arch is pointed and decidedly out of the perpendicular. There are traces of the rood-loft stair ; and there is a recess for a tomb (or Easter sepulchre) in the N. wall of the chancel. The roof of the N. aisle deserves notice.

Wellington Heath, a parish 2 miles N. of Ledbury. The church is modern, and was built in 1866. *Hope End*, associated with Mrs. Browning, lies between Wellington Heath and Colwall.

Welsh Bicknor, a parish near the Wye, the nearest station being Lydbrooke, on the other side of the river (which may be crossed by a ferry). The church of St. Margaret, rebuilt in 1858, is richly ornamented. A niche in the E. wall of the S. aisle contains the fourteenth century effigy of Margaret, Lady de Montacute. In the Vicarage is a valuable collection of paintings. *Courtfield*, the home of the Vaughans (of which family Cardinal Vaughan was a member), is a mansion in the Elizabethan style, and possesses a private Roman Catholic chapel.

Welsh Newton, a village 4 miles N. of Monmouth on the road to Hereford. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a small and unpretentious building, situated by the roadside at the foot of a hill. Notwithstanding its modest appearance it is of much archæological interest. Its chief feature is a Dec. stone screen (fourteenth century) consisting of a triple arcade supported on octagonal columns, and displaying the ball-flower ornament on its mouldings. The rood-loft which surmounted it has been removed, but a dormer window, which lighted the loft on the S. side, still remains. Against the N. wall of the sanctuary is fixed a stone seat, which may have been a "frid stool,"[1] or else the stall of the head of a neighbouring Preceptory of

[1] This was a seat for the use of anyone claiming the privilege of "sanctuary".

Knights Templars, to which Order the church once belonged. The building possesses a good barrel roof of the usual local type, now deprived of its bosses ; but a corbel table on the outside wall immediately above the windows suggests that at one time the roof was much lower. The sill of the sanctuary S. window has been formed into a sedile, and on the splay of the window is a trefoiled piscina. On the floor of the sanctuary are portions of a stone altar and some fourteenth century sepulchral slabs. Other similar slabs have been used to seat the bench table in the S. porch, which also retains a stoup. The font is Norm. but quite plain in character. A gravestone near the partially dismantled churchyard cross bears the inscription *J. K., August* 22, 1679. This marks the burial place of Father John Kemble, a Jesuit martyr, who was imprisoned at Pembridge Castle (*infra*) and subsequently executed at Hereford at the age of 80. It is said that on the morning of his execution he asked for a pipe of tobacco, and genially requested the sheriff to pledge him in a cup of sack before being dispatched. A parting glass has hence been called in the district a "Kemble cup". The local Roman Catholics make an annual pilgrimage to his tomb on the anniversary of his death. A mile to the N.W., on the slope of a hill, by the side of the Pontrilas road, stand the remains of *Pembridge Castle*, a fortress said to have been originally built by Sir Ralph de Pembridge in 1219. The place was held by the Royalists in the Civil War and suffered in consequence. It is quadrangular in plan, and consists of a courtyard enclosing, on the side overlooking

the river, a block of residential apartments. Access is gained to the court through a vaulted passage flanked by two circular towers. The building has until lately been occupied as a farm, but is now (1915) undergoing restoration.

WEOBLEY ("the meadow of Wiba"), a quaint little town in pleasant country, lying a little off the main road from Leominster to Kington, 10 miles N.W. from Hereford. Its population is 702. It is about equidistant (5 miles) from Pembridge station on the Kington line and Moorhampton station on the Hay line. Prior to the Reform Act of 1832 Weobley was deemed of sufficient importance to return (at least at intervals) two members to Parliament. It was once famous for its ale, and also did some trade in gloves. Charles I. is recorded to have stopped and supped at the place on 5th September, 1645. Its reputation now chiefly rests upon its old-fashioned picturesqueness. Though it possesses an interesting church, and is notable as the site of a demolished castle, the tourist visits it chiefly for the sake of its half-timbered houses. It presents in this respect, indeed, a veritable study in black-and-white, for cottages of the true Herefordshire type and of great variety of design abound everywhere. Its most famous house is *The Ley* (½ mile away), with eight gables on its N. front, erected in the sixteenth century by James Bridges, whose initials are on the porch; but some very good woodwork is also to be observed in the school. The church (Sts. Peter and Paul) is situated on the N. side of the town and is a spacious and imposing structure, deriving

additional dignity from its lofty spire. The oldest part (except the doorway mentioned below) is the S. aisle, the windows at the W. end being of an early type of thirteenth century architecture; and successive illustrations of later periods are obtainable as the visitor advances eastwards. The main fabric, however, dates chiefly from the fourteenth century, and is a little irregular in design, the tower rising at the W. end of the N. aisle, which is of greater dimensions than its companion on the S. The most noticeable architectural features of the building are (1) Norm. doorway at S. entrance, (2) ball-flower ornamentation at the W. entrance and on the E. bay of the N. arcade, (3) curvilinear tracery in a blocked window on the W. front, (4) rood-loft doorway, (5) corbels and image bracket with canopy in the S. aisle, (6) triple lancet windows on the S. side of the sanctuary. There is some Jacobean woodwork behind the stalls, and a number of fragments of ancient glass of the fifteenth century in one of the N. windows. The choir contains three noteworthy monuments. On the S. are the effigies of Sir John and Agnes Marbury (1437 and 1433); whilst on the N. is the altar-tomb of Sir Walter Devereux (1402). Lady Marbury is said to have been the wife in turn of each of these knights (both of whom wear the *SS* collar), and lies by the side of her second husband. In the sanctuary is a mural monument, with a figure of Col. J. Birch (1616-1691). There are piscinas in the chancel and at the E. end of the S. aisle (where there was a chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas). The corresponding chapel on the

WEOBLEY, TIMBERED HOUSES

N. was dedicated to the Virgin. In the churchyard is the stepped base of an ancient cross which has now been surmounted with an inappropriate modern shaft. The castle, previously alluded to, is described by Leland as "goodly"; but even in his day it was "somewhat in decay," and is now represented only by some extensive earthworks on the S. side of the town, where its site forms a kind of public recreation ground. It appears to have been a place of considerable strength, and is believed to have been founded by the De Lacys. In the wars between Stephen and Maud it frequently changed hands; and at a later period became the property of the Devereux family. It is described as having been a quadrangular building, with six guard towers, enclosing a keep which was protected by four other towers. The entrance was on the N. and was reached by a drawbridge spanning the moat. *Garnstone Park*, once the site of the residence of Col. Birch, is a modern castellated mansion, situated 1 mile S. of the town and surrounded by some fine woods.

West Hide, a village 5 miles N.E. of Hereford: nearest station Withington, 2 miles. The church deserves inspection. It is entered by a S. door, the porch of which contains two slabs, with floriated crosses, and a holy water stoup. The arch of the tower is Trans. (twelfth century), and is supposed to have belonged to the chancel, and to have been removed to its present position when the chancel was reconstructed. The tower itself is of thirteenth century date, and is said to be built with loam instead of mortar; in consequence, it has never been

carried much beyond the roof of the nave. The most interesting features of the building (restored in 1866-7) are contained in a large S. chapel, of fourteenth century date, which is separated from the nave by an arcade of two bays. They are (1) effigy in excellent preservation, with hound at foot ; (2) at E. end, piscina, under which are (3) headless and footless effigies of a man and woman (sixteenth or seventeenth century) ; (4) against the W. wall, incised tomb-stone, with male and female figures (Richard Monyngton and Alice, his wife). There is also a font of unusual shape. Note the image brackets, both in the chapel and in the chancel. In the graveyard is a stepped cross, surmounted by a sundial and placed, out of the sun, under a tree.

Weston Beggard, a parish 5 miles E.N.E. of Hereford. The church (St. John Baptist) is rather remote from the population, which is gathered on the slopes of Shucknall Hill. It is assigned to the fourteenth century, though the S. doorway must be earlier than this. The chancel, which is unusually narrow, contains a piscina and ambry ; but the most attractive features are two fine Dec. canopies which have lost their effigies or slabs. The old timbered building near the church is said to have once been the vicarage.

Weston-under-Penyard, a parish 2 miles E. of Ross on the Gloucester road. The church is prettily situated at the foot of Penyard Hill ; and possesses a noteworthy Norm. arcade separating the nave from a N. aisle : observe the carved heads at the junction of the arches. The E. end has

three lancet windows. On the S. wall there is a small brass to the memory of Walter Nurse, with a Latin inscription, and bearing the date 1609. Externally, note the niche in one of the tower buttresses. On Penyard Hill are the remains of a castle, though little of the fabric survives. It belonged in the thirteenth century to the Talbots. W. of this hill is another called *The Chase*, on the summit of which there is a camp, now covered with timber. A little to the N. of Weston is *Bollitree Castle*, moated in front. Here and at *Broom's Ash*, a hamlet further to the E., a quantity of Roman coins, beads, and pottery have been discovered, excavations having been first made in 1785. The soil is darker than that of the surrounding neighbourhood, and since *scoriæ* and other traces of industrial activity are abundant, but no indications of villas, it has been inferred that there once existed in the vicinity a Roman settlement, the occupants of which were engaged in mining, and drew for fuel upon the adjoining Forest of Dean. Its Latin name was probably *Ariconium*, which seems to survive in *Archenfield* (earlier *Arcenefeld*), the appellation of this part of Herefordshire since Saxon times. From here a Roman road passed to Gloucester (*Glevum*). On the borders of the parish is the manor-house of *Rudhall*, once the abode of the family of that name (see p. 230). It has an elaborate doorway of Perp. date.

Whitbourne, a parish on the Worcestershire verge of the county, 5 miles E.N.E. of Bromyard. The village lies at the bottom of a dingle threaded by a

tributary of the Teme, and contains some half-timbered cottages. Near the church is a mediæval manor-house (Whitbourne Court) partly surrounded by a moat. It was once a residence of the bishops of Hereford, but during the Cromwellian régime was purchased by Col. Birch, the captor of Hereford, who seems to have altered it considerably. It is a gabled building without any very striking external features. The church (St. John Baptist), which has a battlemented W. tower and a modern N. aisle, stands in a neatly kept churchyard entered by an ancient wooden lych-gate. It preserves such early features as a good Norm. S. door with zigzag mouldings, a small lancet window, and a cup-shaped font, decorated with star-like ornamentation. The tombstone of Col. Birch's son forms one of the flags on the floor of the vestry. There is preserved an ancient cope, with richly embroidered orphreys, presumably once worn by some former bishop of Hereford. Whitbourne Hall, an imposing mansion, with a classical façade and a large palm-house, is a conspicuous object in the valley.

Whitchurch, a village 6 miles S.S.W. from Ross, and 4 miles N.E. of Monmouth : the nearest station is Symond's Yat, on the Monmouth and Ross line, 1 mile. It is a clean and pleasant-looking place, on the main road between Ross and Monmouth. Its chief importance for the tourist is its proximity to Symond's Yat, the gate to some of the chief beauties of the Wye. The Yat, though not more than a mile distant, is, however, in Gloucestershire, but a lane leads off from the centre of the

village to a ferry, by which the passage across the river may be very easily effected. The visitor who has no mind to cross over to the adjoining county, and yet wishes to view the cliffs which here begin to shut in the Wye, may either take a boat at the ferry and drop down the river to Monmouth, or may proceed through the woods which fringe the Herefordshire bank of the stream. In pursuing either course he will pass one of the most notable pieces of scenery which the Wye has to display. This is the *Seven Sisters*, a series of rocky pinnacles springing out of the foliage that so plentifully drapes the gorge through which the river flows. These crags belong to Herefordshire, but an equally celebrated bit of cliff scenery, the *Coldwell Rocks*, higher up the river, are claimed by Gloucestershire. They are best viewed from the top of the Yat—a rocky platform, surmounted by a flagstaff, immediately opposite the ferry. The river coils round the Yat, and in the graceful serpentine loop which it makes as it approaches the hill, the rocks—a precipitous wall of limestone abundantly festooned with greenery—are situated. The prospect from the Yat is unsurpassed excepting by the rival view from the Wynd Cliff near Chepstow. The visitor who comes to Whitchurch to see Symond's Yat, but desires also to inspect the church, will pass it on his way: it lies in a rather secluded situation on the left side of the lane, as he leaves the village. It is a small building of more antiquity than interest, dedicated to the Welsh saint Dyfrig (or Dubricius). Its most noteworthy features are a small pillar exposed in the S. wall of the chancel, a Norm. font

and the ancient base of a churchyard cross, which exhibits on one of its faces a small niche, which may once have been a stoup for holy water. The church possesses a chalice of 1699 and a still earlier cover (1609). Roman or Romano-British remains have been found in the locality, and the discovery of a pavement points to a villa having existed here. On *Great Doward Hill*, which rises to the S. of the village, there are some caves (*King Arthur's*), in which the teeth and bones of various extinct animals (including the lion, bear, hyæna, woolly-haired rhinoceros, and reindeer) have been discovered. On the same hill there is also an enclosure protected by a bank and fosse. *Old Court* farm is of Tudor date.

Whitney, a parish on the Wye, about 4 miles from Hay, whence it may be reached by two routes. The road on the S. of the Wye here crosses the river by a wooden bridge (toll for pedestrians, 1d.). There is a railway station on the Hereford and Hay line. The church, built in 1740 (to take the place of an earlier one which stood by the bank of the river and was washed away in 1735), has a reredos made of oak and dated 1629, which is said to have once been part of a bedstead. Two seventeenth century carved Communion-table legs now support a book-rest. The font is a survival from the old church which the river demolished. Whitney was a stronghold of Lollardism in the fourteenth century, and it was one of the places where Walter Brut, a supporter of William Swinderby is said to have been active (p. 39).

Wigmore, a largish village, situated where roads

from Leominster, Ludlow, and Knighton meet. Its distance from Ludlow is about 7½ miles, from Kingsland station rather less. It is best known for its castle, but it has monastic associations as well. There once existed here an abbey, of which some slight memorials remain, and to which the parish church was attached. This (dedicated to St. James the Apostle) stands on an elevation, and is of considerable size. It was originally a Norm. structure. The S. aisle is an addition to the earliest plan of the building, for a small Norm. slit in the nave wall looks into it. On the N. of the nave there is a raised chamber which was presumably once a chapel. The church retains a stoup and three piscinas (one in the S. aisle, a second in the chancel, where it is cut on the side of a window, and a third high up on the wall separating the chancel from the nave, which was designed for the rood-loft altar). There is some ornamented woodwork in the choir, and a pulpit with linen-pattern carving. The font is octagonal, but lacks distinctive features.

The castle is reached by a lane running parallel to the S. wall of the church. It occupies a very strong position, surrounded by a moat, but the masonry now is somewhat fragmentary. It had a central square keep, planted on a high mound, with a quadrangular court below it, which, enclosed by a battlemented wall, contained the chief apartments. At the bottom of the hill was a second wall. The entrance gateway on the S. is ascribed to the fourteenth century, and was reached by a drawbridge. Outside was a protecting barbican.

The keep is Norm. in style ; but much of the remaining masonry is described as belonging to the Dec. period. The fortress was dismantled during the Civil War in 1643. An excellent view of its commanding situation is obtained from the road leading to Leintwardine. The precise date of the building of the castle is uncertain. At the Conquest the country round was given by William I. to Ranulph de Mortimer, by whom (it is supposed) the earliest Norm. fortress was reared.

Two miles N. of the castle, along the lower road to Leintwardine, is Wigmore Grange, which was once connected with the Abbey mentioned above. The structure of the barn belonging to it is noteworthy. The timbers that frame it, as they rise from the ground, curve inwards till they meet at the top, so that the interior has the appearance of the hold of a ship turned upside down. At *Deerfold* is *Chapel Farm*, dating from the fourteenth century.

Willersley, a parish on the main road from Hereford to Hay, 1 mile S. of Eardisley station. The small church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, preserves a carved stone, forming the lintel of the S. door.

Wilton, a hamlet near Ross, on the right bank of the Wye. Previous to the reign of Elizabeth the river here was crossed by a ford, a little below the present bridge ; and a broken cross, on the lower of the two roads leading in the direction of Monmouth, still marks the spot. The bridge, of sixteenth century date, carries in its centre a curious pillar-sundial ; and an ungrammatical verse in-

scribed upon it gives the traveller some good, albeit hackneyed, advice. The arch nearest to Wilton was destroyed in the Civil War. To the right of the Hereford road is Wilton Castle. It was built, or rebuilt, in the reign of Stephen ; and belonged, in the time of Henry I., to Hugh de Longchamp, but passed, in the reign of Edward I., by marriage to the de Greys, and, under Elizabeth, to the Brydges, who held it during the Civil War. Being besieged by the Parliament in 1645, it was seriously damaged by fire, and is now a ruin. It stands in private grounds, but parts of it can be examined by following a footpath leading towards Bridstow. From the character of the surviving windows it seems to have undergone reconstruction in the fifteenth century. On one side of it, where it is not protected by the river, is a deep moat.

Winforton, a parish on the northern of the two roads from Hereford to Hay, 2 miles S.W. of Eardisley station. The church (with a timbered belfry) has been restored ; but it preserves a N. blocked doorway, and has a N. transeptal chapel containing a piscina. Inserted in the pulpit are some Jacobean panels, one being dated 1613. Like so many Herefordshire churches, it is dedicated to St. Michael. In the thirteenth century a hermit called Walter established himself on a small island in the Wye near here, where he built a chapel, remains of which survived until the seventeenth century. At the W. end of the village, near the road, is the base of an ancient cross.

Withington, a village 4 miles N.E. of Hereford, with a station $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the S. The parish church

(St. Peter) has a massive tower crowned by a steeple too slender to be in proper proportion to its base. There are not many features of interest within the building; but note (1) the fine tower arch; (2) the fifteenth century screen (thought to have been imported from elsewhere); (3) the Dec. piscina in the nave (the one in the chancel is modern). There are plain round-headed Norm. doors S. and N. (the latter being blocked). The existing lych-gate preserves portions of an older structure. The family of John Philips, the author of *Cyder* and *The Splendid Shilling* (see p. 81), was connected with this parish, though the poet himself was born at Bampton in Oxfordshire.

Wolferlow, a parish in the N.E. extremity of the county, 5 miles N. from Bromyard. It perhaps gets its name from Wulfere, son of the Mercian king Penda. The church (St. Andrew) contains the effigy of a woman.

Woolhope, a village 8 miles E.S.E. of Hereford. The best road is through Fownhope; but there is also a more direct, though rougher, track across the hills. The neighbourhood is geologically very interesting, being an example of an elevated valley. The Silurian rocks which underlie the Old Red Sandstone, the chief Herefordshire system, here protrude through the strata that elsewhere cover them (cp. p. 8). The parish church (St. George), which stands on rising ground, seems to be of Norm. date, and to have consisted originally of chancel, nave, and N. aisle, the latter being separated from the nave by a short arcade of two arches (one round and the other pointed) on Norm.

piers. Later, when a N. chapel was added, the chancel wall was pierced, and an additional arcade constructed (a Norm. window being enclosed by the chapel). The S. aisle is obviously of still later origin. The most noteworthy memorials are two slabs preserved on the wall of the N. aisle, each with a figure (one in profile, the other full face). There is a stoup inside the S. door ; sedilia and a piscina in the sanctuary ; and a second piscina (apparently out of its original position) in the vestry, which was formerly a chapel. In the vestry, too, is another carved stone and an ancient bench. The Field Naturalists' Club, which has done so much good work in connexion with the geology, the *fauna* and *flora*, the antiquities, and the history of Herefordshire, takes its name from this place.

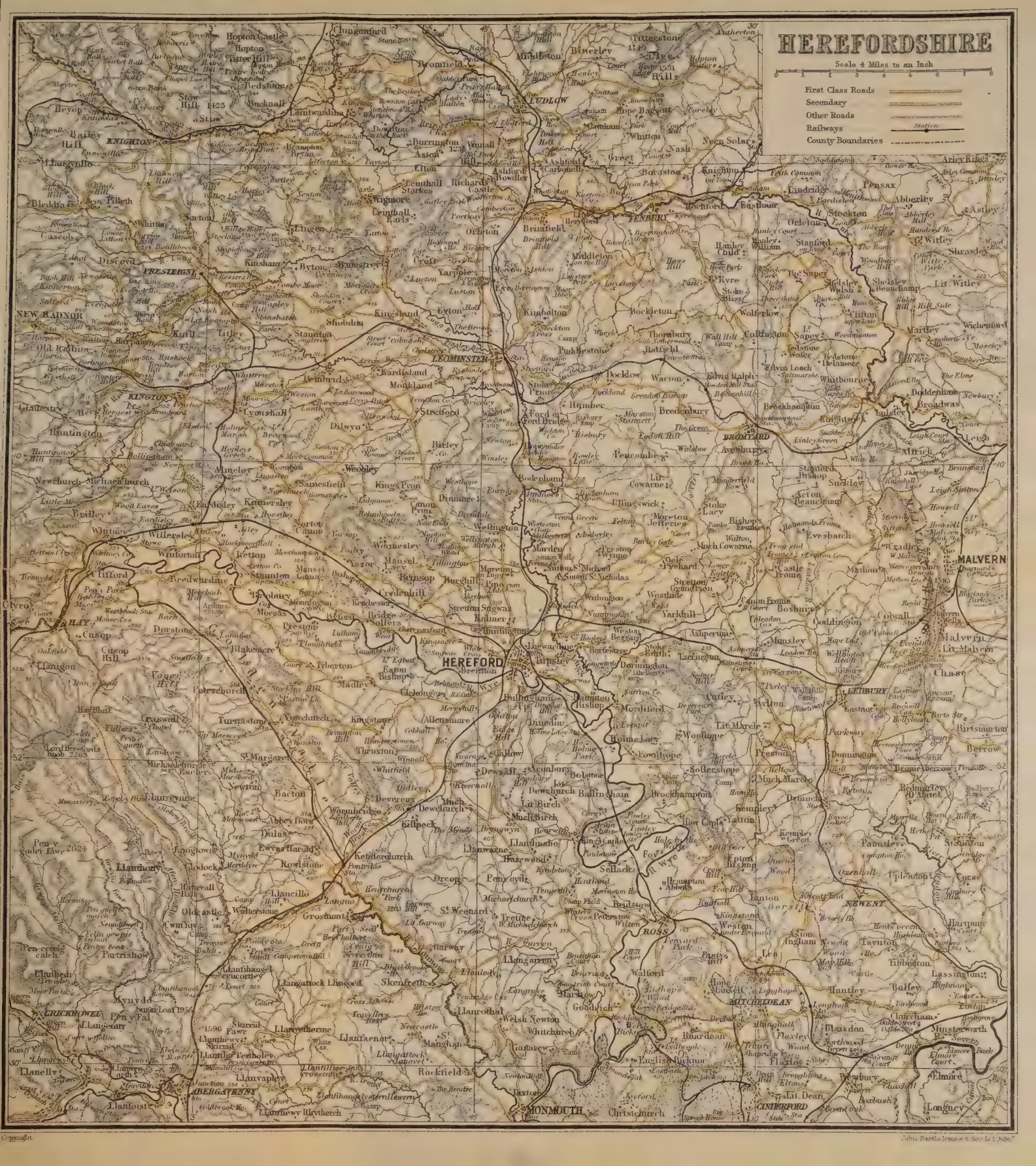
Wormbridge, a parish 1 mile E. of St. Devereux station. There was once a religious house here, which belonged to the Knights Hospitallers. The church stands near the roadside, and preserves some ancient glass in one of the N. windows. There is a good roof, and some monuments of the Clive family.

Wormsley, a parish 7 miles N.W. of Hereford, on the Kington road. The church, rebuilt in 1876, is of Norm. origin, but the remains of that period are but scanty. They include a S. door, with a plain tympanum, a blocked N. door, and a font. Another blocked door near the chancel arch once led to a chapel now demolished. A priory of Austin Canons was founded here in the reign of John, but nothing of it survives. It stood near the present Grange House, 1 mile W. of the church.

Yarkhill (or *Yarcle*), a straggling parish 7 miles E.N.E. from Hereford. Of the church (St. John the Baptist), which has been restored, the only ancient parts appear to be the S. door and the base of the tower, which are Trans. or E.E. ; but the fluted font is even older, and is thought to be of Norm. date. Under the tower is kept the bowl of another and perhaps earlier font, and an old wooden chest ; and in the porch is a holy water stoup (not *in situ*). The original roof of the nave has been preserved. In the churchyard is a very fine yew tree. A monastic house once existed in the parish, where *Monksbury Court* now stands.

Yarpole, a village 5 miles N.N.W. of Leominster. Its church is noteworthy for possessing a detached belfry, which in structure and plan resembles that of Pembridge (p. 221), but is smaller in size and has only two stages (instead of three). The body of the church has been restored, and very few traces of antiquity remain, though it has sedilia, two piscinas, and an octagonal font (with some arcading carved round the bowl).

Yazor, a parish on the Hereford and Kington road, 7 miles N.W. from Hereford (nearest station Moorhampton, 1½ miles). The church (St. Mary the Virgin), which stands on a bank overlooking the road, is a modern Gothic building, with a tower and spire forming a W. porch. It was erected in 1855 by Sir R. Price, and contains some mural monuments of his family. The hill that rises to the N. of the village is *Ladylift*, an eminence conspicuous from many parts of the county, and commanding a most extensive prospect.


HEREFORDSHIRE
Scale 4 Miles to an Inch
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
First Class Roads
Secondary
Other Roads
Railways
Station
County Boundaries
HEREFORD
LUDLOW
LEOMINSTER
KINGTON
PRESTEIGNE
KNIGHTON
NEW RADNOR
HAY
ABERGAVENNY
MONMOUTH
ROSS
LEDBURY
MALVERN
BROMYARD
TENBURY
CLEOBURY MORTIMER
CRICKHOWELL
MITCHELDEAN
NEWENT
CINDERFORD
Chirbury
Bishops Castle
Clun
Knighton
Presteigne
Kington
New Radnor
Builth
Hay
Abergavenny
Crickhowell
Pontrilas
Ross
Monmouth
Chepstow
Tintern
Coleford
Newent
Gloucester
Tewkesbury
Upton
Worcester
Malvern
Ledbury
Bromyard
Tenbury
Cleobury Mortimer
Ludlow
Shrewsbury
Wellington
Hereford
Leominster
Kington
Presteigne
Knighton
Newport
Usk
Pontypool
Abergavenny
Crickhowell
Brecon
Builth
Rhayader
Llandrindod
Newtown
Welshpool
Oswestry
Whitchurch
Ellesmere
Wem
Shrewsbury
Wellington
Bridgnorth
Kidderminster
Stourport
Bewdley
Worcester
Droitwich
Evesham
Pershore
Tewkesbury
Gloucester
Cheltenham
Stroud
Dursley
Berkeley
Thornbury
Chepstow
Monmouth
Ross
Ledbury
Malvern
Upton
Tewkesbury
Cheltenham
Gloucester
Stroud
Dursley
Berkeley
Thornbury
Chepstow
Tintern
Coleford
Newent
Bromyard
Tenbury
Cleobury Mortimer
Ludlow

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